

## Baker to visit Kuwait next week

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State James Baker will visit Kuwait next week as part of his Middle East tour, State Department officials said Thursday. But they denied an earlier report quoting a senior U.S. official that his visit would take place as early as next Monday. Officials also said Mr. Baker was likely to visit Israel on his trip. Other stops would include Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria and Turkey. President George Bush announced Mr. Baker's Middle East trip in his television address but did not mention a visit to Kuwait City. Mr. Baker has been criticized by American Jewish groups for never having visited Israel. In the run-up to the war, he travelled to the Middle East four times but avoided visiting the Jewish state for fear of alienating Arab members of the coalition. Now that the war is over, it was widely assumed that Mr. Baker would include a stop in the Jewish state. The United States and its partners have repeatedly pledged to make a serious effort to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict after the war with Iraq.

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## Israeli killed in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A Jewish seminary student who was stabbed to death, apparently by a Palestinian, was buried Thursday in a funeral attended by about 1,000 mourners. The slaying in Jerusalem's old, walled city broke a lull in fatal attacks on Israelis by Palestinians during the Gulf war. Police identified the victim as Elhanan Attali, 27, who studied at a seminary in the Old City's Jewish quarter. Police said a friend found his body Thursday in a pool of blood in the nearby Muslim quarter. His throat was slit, the report said. Police said the stabbing apparently occurred Wednesday night. "On the surface it appears a (Palestinian) nationalist motive, although we are investigating in all directions," a police spokesman told Israel Radio. Several Arabs were questioned but later released, police said. Reinforcements were moved to the Old City. Before Thursday's incident, there were nine fatal attacks on Jews by Palestinians since the Oct. 8 massacre in Jerusalem. Some of the deaths sparked retaliatory attacks and angry funeral processions, but Thursday's funeral march passed without incident.

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# Ceasefire in the Gulf

## 28-nation coalition, Iraq end military hostilities

### War is stopped

#### Combined agency dispatches

ALLIED AND IRAQI forces suspended attacks Thursday and began the work of forging a peace.

Military officials said Thursday evening that they considered the ceasefire declared late Wednesday by U.S. President George Bush to be holding, despite reports of sporadic Iraqi fire.

Mr. Bush claimed a "quick, decisive and just" victory after Iraq pledged to accept all U.N. resolutions on Kuwait and ordered its forces to stop fighting.

The ceasefire that went into effect at midnight on Wednesday (0500 GMT) ended fighting for the first time since allied forces launched bombing attacks in the first phase of combat to drive Iraq from Kuwait it took over on Aug. 2.

"Kuwait is liberated. Iraq's army is defeated," Mr. Bush said in his seven-minute speech on Wednesday night. "Our military objectives are met."

Six weeks to the day after he ordered a U.S.-led alliance to fight Iraq, Mr. Bush said the bloodshed could end.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said U.S. troops might be able to start coming home within days.

— a midnight tonight eastern standard time, exactly 100 hours

since ground operations commenced and six weeks since the start of Operation Desert Storm, all U.S. and coalition forces will suspend offensive combat operations," Mr. Bush said.

Baghdad Radio said in a broadcast following Mr. Bush's speech that Iraq would not bow its head to anyone and was "as sharp as the edge of the sword."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Thursday ordered his troops to stop fighting three hours after the allied ceasefire took effect.

Western diplomats at the United Nations said early on Thursday that Iraq had accepted all 12 U.N. resolutions adopted since its invasion of Kuwait without conditions.

Mr. Bush who staked his presidency on rolling back the Iraqi invasion, said the allies were suspending military operations contingent on a cessation of Iraqi hostilities and an end of missile attacks on Saudi Arabia and Israel.

"It is up to Iraq whether this suspension on the part of the coalition becomes a permanent ceasefire," he said.

He called for Iraqi military spokesmen to meet allied commanders in 48 hours to arrange the release of prisoners of war as

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## Iraq orders truce, says it has won

#### Combined agency dispatches

IRAQ ORDERED its soldiers to stop fighting Thursday after an allied ceasefire announced by U.S. President George Bush and then said it had won the Gulf war.

A military spokesman noted that the allied suspension of combat would "save the blood of our sons and the safety of our people."

"We are happy for the halt in fighting," the spokesman said on Baghdad Radio.

"Therefore, orders were issued to all our units at the battlefield not to open fire. God is great," he said.

It was the first official announcement since Iraq accepted two more U.N. Security Council resolutions necessary for peace.

The radio throughout the day aired inspirational songs and commentary saying that the Republican Guards were able to defeat the allies and compel them from Iraqi territory.

"The guards have broken up

the backbone of their aggressors and thrown them beyond the borders," one commentary said.

"Let us celebrate the epic of the brave Republican Guards, who protected Iraq and preserved its great power," it said.

The ruling party newspaper, Al Thawra, ran editorials also proclaiming an Iraqi victory and scoffed at the allied claims.

It said the Iraqi victory would go into the annals of history books as "a great Arab achievement."

"Victory is not how many tanks or planes we or the enemy used. It's all steel which can get ruined," it said. "Victory is the fact that you acquire in the history books."

The Iraqis were also told by the government newspapers that they should rejoice because their army has been able to maintain its power and weapons.

"Iraq's power remains intact," Al Thawra said in a major front-page editorial.

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## Israel lifts alert, but keeps curfew

#### Combined agency dispatches

ISRAEL LIFTED its emergency alert for Iraqi missile attacks Thursday after guns fell silent in the Gulf war.

"We ask citizens now to pack up their protection kits (gas masks), to put them back in their original wrappings and to unseal their rooms," army spokesman Brigadier-General Nachman Shai announced on Israel radio.

Gen. Shai referred to protective measures in force since the start of the Gulf war as a precaution against Iraqi threats to use chemical weapons against Israel.

During the war Iraq fired 39 missiles at the Jewish state, all with conventional warheads.

The lifting of the emergency did not affect the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. They remain under strict curfew and night-time curfews, an army spokesman said. The occupied territories also remain closed to outsiders, including journalists.

Israel also demanded that Iraqi

President Saddam Hussein be toppled.

Yossi Ben-Aharon, director-general of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office, said in a radio interview the Iraqi people must remove president Saddam for the good of their country, the Arab World and "obviously for us."

Israel Radio said U.S. Secretary of State James Baker would visit Israel for the first time during a Middle East tour next week. Washington said only that he was coming to the region.

"I have to say that I won't feel that the war is over if Saddam Hussein stays on as president of Iraq," said Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said: "We can certainly welcome the glittering victory of the United States and its allies." "But he demanded the elimination of Iraqi missiles to remove any threat to Israel."

Israeli commentators focused



IN SOLIDARITY: Thousands of people demonstrate in Amman Thursday in support of Iraq (see page 3)

Photo by Yousef Al'Atan

## U.S. to set terms for peace today

#### Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES plans to propose a resolution outlining Gulf war peace terms to the United Nations Security Council Friday, a State Department spokeswoman said Thursday.

U.S. officials are consulting on details with allies in the coalition against Iraq and expect this "would result in a new resolution" that would take to the Security Council at the earliest opportunity, probably no later than tomorrow," spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler told reporters.

It "will contain terms and conditions which represent the political considerations that have to be addressed for the termination of the war, such as release of Kuwaiti detainees and third-country nationals, acceptance and implementation of all United Nations resolutions..."

"We have always said that if (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein remains in power it's the view of the United States government that an arms embargo must continue; that remains our view," she said.

British Prime Minister John Major said the allies were demanding that Iraq destroy its ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction after the Gulf war.

"Through the United Nations we shall... seek a commitment

from Iraq to destroy under international supervision all its ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction and not to acquire such weapons in future," he told parliament.

The U.N. secretary-general said Thursday he hoped Iraq's promise to the United Nations that it would honor all 12 Security Council resolutions dealing with the Gulf crisis would be "the beginning of the end of this terrible tragedy."

Diplomats said the majority of the council members, led by the United States and Britain, want to resolve outstanding questions such as the exchange of prisoners of war and abducted civilians before formally ending hostilities.

Hours after U.S. President George Bush announced a ceasefire in the Gulf war, Iraq accepted the coalition's conditions for suspending military action after making several previous peace offers that the allies considered unacceptable.

The Security Council met behind closed doors late Thursday, morning to consider the situation and Iraq's position, contained in a letter to the council and to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The council also took note of the allies' provisional ceasefire.

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## Jordan hopes for quick diplomatic peace process

### Kingdom urges relief efforts for Iraqis

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan Thursday welcomed the ceasefire in the Gulf war and expressed hope that the truce would be formally consolidated and lead to a permanent solution to the conflict. The Kingdom also called for immediate moves to address the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people who have been under some of the heaviest bombardments in history for the last six weeks.

Jordanian officials and politicians expressed hope that a diplomatic process would get off the ground soon not only to resolve the Gulf conflict but also to address the fundamental Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem.

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Jordan hoped that the ceasefire would lead to a formal ceasefire resolution issued by the U.N. Security Council and pave the way for a permanent settlement of the conflict.

"Jordan has always sought to resolve the crisis peacefully and avert a military option," Mr. Masri said in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. "Jordan welcomes the cessation of hostilities in the Gulf and hopes that (it would be formalized with a) Security Council resolution, which in turn would pave the way for a permanent solution to the conflict."

The foreign minister also expressed hope that the Arab Nation "will be able to heal its wounds and look to the future with confidence and unity its ranks and pursue its march in the best interest and the welfare of the future generations."

Information Minister Ibrahim Izzeddine said: "We hope that the killing has ended and the door will be open for international agencies to provide urgent relief and end the sufferings of the Iraqi people."

At this point in time, Mr. Izzeddine told the Jordan Times, "what is important is to have a

proper ceasefire in place which will allow the Iraqi people to get what they need urgently."

The minister expressed hope at an earlier press briefing that diplomacy would take over from the ceasefire on the ground and "end this ugly war so that we can move into the post-war era."

"This was a war that Jordan was totally against," he said. "We are relieved that it has ended now."

Optimism that the war has finally come to an end was also expressed by the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament as well as parliament members.

But several other parliamentarians, officials and politicians contacted by the Jordan Times said they were relieved that the ceasefire had ended the military conflict — and "the killing of civilians and massive devastation of Iraq" as one senator put it —

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## Jordan refutes charge

AMMAN (J.T) — Jordan Thursday categorically denied reports that it had supplied arms and ammunition to Iraq in violation of the international embargo imposed on Baghdad following the Aug. 2 Iraqi takeover of Kuwait.

"We are surprised at such reports which are carried without proper verification," said an official spokesman. "We reject such reports and reiterate that Jordan has not supplied Iraq with any weapon or any other military equipment after the Gulf crisis erupted on Aug. 2," the spokesman said in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The statement came in response to international agency reports which quoted unidentified American military intelligence sources as saying that the allied forces in Iraq had found weapons allegedly supplied by Jordan after the U.N. Security Council imposed the international embargo on Iraq. These weapons, according to the reports, included rocket launchers, bombs, mortars and ammunition.

The Jordanian spokesman recalled that it was not the first time that Jordan had faced such allegations. He said that Jordan, in line with an agreement with both Saudi Arabia and Iraq, had negotiated with China on behalf of Iraq to procure Chinese-made weapons during 1981, one year after the Iran-Iraq war began. These weapons, which were of the same description as cited in the latest reports, were delivered to the Iraqi authorities through the Saudi port of Al Qudaima in coordination with the Saudi armed forces during the Iran-Iraq war, the spokesman said.

"These supplies," the spokesman noted, "came at a time of

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# World heaves a sigh of relief

#### Combined agency dispatches

THE WORLD breathed a sigh of relief that the Gulf war was over Thursday.

But politicians in different capitals, reacting to the 0500 GMT ceasefire announced by U.S. President George Bush, interpreted the outcome of the conflict through their own filters.

Most were content to praise the "victory" of the U.S.-led allied forces and the United Nations role in the crisis.

Some looked ahead to rebuilding the Gulf region, others pledged troops for a U.N. force. "Kuwait has been liberated and one of the most remarkable military campaigns of all time has been concluded," said Prime Minister John Major of Britain, a leading alliance member. "Our troops have performed magni-

ficently. Right has prevailed."

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl called the outcome "a victory of justice over injustice, a victory of freedom over violence."

"Huge joint efforts are needed to find negotiated solutions to all problems of the region — including the Palestinian question and Lebanon. At the same time, Israel's security must be guaranteed," Mr. Kohl said.

German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher suggested the Iraqi people replace their president, "because Saddam Hussein has excluded himself from the world community with his policies and his crimes," he said.

In Paris, Defence Minister Pierre Joxe said French troops would remain in Iraq until the United Nations works out cease-

fire details.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said the ceasefire proposal was a moment of "great relief and hope, of great pride and great sorrow..."

"But we are glad that the world has stood united against (an) act of aggression even to the ultimate sanction of war."

"It's over, it's finally over," said Italian Defence Minister Virginio Rognoni. "Diplomacy and the will of man must now work for peace and how to preserve it."

NATO, many of whose members had troops in the coalition, hailed it as a U.N. victory.

"We welcome the report that Iraq will abide by all the United Nations Security Council resolutions dealing with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait," a NATO spokesman said. "This is a very

significant victory for the United Nations and its efforts to bring peace to the Gulf region."

France, whose troops fought in the war, said the United Nations should be a driving force in solving Middle East problems.

"The time for the United Nations has come once again," Defence Minister Pierre Joxe said. "France is prepared to participate as part of U.N. action to guarantee peace and security..."

Denmark, Norway and Sweden also offered to contribute troops to U.N. peacekeeping operations.

China's official Xinhua news agency said President Yang Shangkun sent a message to the emir of Kuwait congratulating him on the liberation of the country. China had abstained in the

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## Iran warns allies against meddling in Iraq

#### Combined agency dispatches

IRANIAN LEADERS said Thursday they opposed the dismemberment of Iraq or the setting up of a puppet government by victorious U.S.-led allies.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati stressed that the future of Iraq must be decided by the Iraqi people, and warned the allies not to interfere, Tehran Radio reported.

The broadcast quoted Mr. Velayati as saying that Iran was "opposed to foreign intervention in the future of the people of Iraq."

Mr. Velayati's comments came hours after U.S. President George Bush declared a ceasefire in the Gulf war, following Iraq's

acceptance of all U.N. Security Council resolutions passed against it during the crisis.

Speaking to clerics and students of Islamic science in Tehran Mr. Velayati said that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait had to be challenged, "but not by people who never did or will ever consider the interests of Islam and the Muslims."

Iran has stressed that the regional countries must maintain security in the Gulf.

Two Tehran newspapers said now was the time for Iran to press for reparations for the eight-year conflict with Iraq which caused Iran damage officially estimated at one thousand billion dollars.

Many Iranians believe Tehran will use Iraqi planes which fled to

Iran over the past weeks as leverage in any negotiations on reparations.

The planes, said by the allies to number about 150, include some of Iraq's combat aircraft, each worth tens of millions of dollars.

Neutral Iran said during the war that it would keep the planes until the end of hostilities.

Mr. Velayati defended Iran's neutrality in the war "which was for power, not one between Islam and infidelity."

He stressed Iran's "opposition to Iraq's partition and foreign meddling in determining the Iraqi people's destiny," Tehran Radio said.

He said the crisis did not start with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last August but had its roots in

the backing given by some regional countries, including Kuwait, to Iraq in its war against Iran.

The headline Jomhuri Eslami newspaper said Iran should waste no time in demanding reparations from Kuwait, despite repeated apologies by Kuwaiti officials since the invasion for their earlier backing of Iraq.

The Tehran Times noted that Security Council Resolution 598 included the question of reconstruction as part of an overall settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

"If multinational forces are calling for implementing of Security Council resolutions

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## Israeli post in Lebanon rocketed

NABATIYEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Resistance fighters launched a rocket attack on an Israeli outpost in South Lebanon Thursday in defiance of Lebanese army authority in the region, police said.

They said Israeli gunners retaliated by shelling the army-controlled villages of Habboush and Kfar Rumman from which the four Soviet-designed rockets were launched.

There was no immediate report of casualties or damage.

In another development, a 20-man strong group from the mainstream Palestinian Fatah faction withdrew from olive groves in Iqim Al Tufah to the north of Habboush after it was besieged by the army for three days.

A police spokesman said army scouts "located the guerrilla band" near the village of Sarba three days ago.

Sarba is a tiny mountain village in the province, (10 kilometres) north of Habboush.

"The army blocked all supply lines to the guerrilla band and ordered it to withdraw. The guerrillas withdrew around noon (1000 GMT) Thursday after they ran out of supplies," said the police spokesman.

He said the guerrilla withdrawal was "achieved peacefully. There were no clashes. The army escorted them to the vicinity of the Palestinian refugee camp of Ain Al Hilweh."

Ain Al Hilweh, the largest Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon, is southeast of the port city of Sidon, which is not policed by the Lebanese army.

The rocket attack, according to the police spokesman, targeted the Israeli-controlled Suwayda hill, which is in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" of South Lebanon.

Israeli gunners retaliated about noon local time (0900 GMT) by shelling Kfar Rumman, adjacent to Nabatiyeh, and Habboush, three kilometres north of this market town, with tank fire, the spokesman said.

About 2,000 Lebanese troops moved into South Lebanon Feb. 6, hoping to assert control over the region which has been used by Palestinian and other groups over the past 16 years to launch resistance attacks against Israel. Most guerrillas in the area agreed to cede control to the army.

Israel maintained the 1,100-square-kilometre "security zone" when it withdrew the bulk of its invading army from South Lebanon in the summer of 1985.

The zone, policed by some 1,000 Israeli troops and 3,000 allied militiamen of the South Lebanon Army, extends from the Mediterranean coast in the west to the slopes of Mount Hermon in the east.

The strip is intended to serve as a buffer against cross-border guerrilla infiltrations into southern Israel.

At the height of the Gulf war, which broke out Jan. 17, resistance fighters launched a barrage of rockets at Israeli targets in what some reports suggested was opening of a "second Gulf war front."

More than 1,000 Israeli soldiers and the 5,000-strong pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army patrol the "security zone."

The entry to the region by Lebanese government soldiers has not affected the "security zone."

## Hurd, Baker discuss post-war scenario

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Wednesday they hoped the Gulf conflict had made Arabs and Israelis more willing to work to end their disputes.

The two ministers, who met for more than an hour to discuss post-Gulf war peace efforts, also raised the prospect that the U.S.-led alliance would retain sanctions on Iraq after the war has ended.

Mr. Baker, speaking to reporters at the U.S. State Department, said settling the age-old Arab-Israeli conflict was one of the alliance's post-war goals.

But he stressed "you are not going to make progress on Arab-Israeli peace unless the parties themselves really want to make progress."

He noted the war would "change things quite substantially in the region."

"At the first appropriate opportunity... we'd like to see the degree to which they (Arabs and Israelis) are interested in intensively pursuing peace, how involved they would like to become and specifically what contributions each side would want to make to this process," Mr. Baker said.

Nevertheless, "the world community has to try again in the hope that the shock that everyone in the Middle East has endured... in these last months will produce a new impetus, will produce maybe some fresh thinking, some willingness to consider ideas which were rejected before," Mr. Hurd said.

Later, he told a press conference that a mechanism for dealing with this issue, which Iraq had tried to link directly to the Gulf crisis, had not yet been worked out.

Mr. Baker and Mr. Hurd, close allies in the war effort, said they would work closely in peace efforts, although they warned bringing stability to the region would not be easy.

One key question is what to do about airtight sanctions imposed on Iraq by the U.N. Security Council last August in an effort to persuade Baghdad to withdraw peacefully from Kuwait.

Mr. Hurd, after meeting President George Bush at the White House Wednesday, declared the sanctions must remain in effect after the war until all issues, such as the release of prisoners of war and the payment of reparations, are resolved.

"I would expect the sanctions to remain on once the fighting has stopped," Mr. Hurd said. He declined to say how long the embargo would stay in effect, adding "that will depend on the policies of whatever government there is in Iraq."

Mr. Baker later said that as long as Saddam Hussein remains in power the Security Council "at the very least" should retain an arms embargo to prevent Iraq from rearming.

The Los Angeles Times reported the Bush administration was forging a strategy to prompt a coup in Baghdad by preventing President Saddam from rebuilding Iraq's war-shattered economy.

It quoted senior U.S. officials as saying the United States intended to maintain economic sanctions that block Iraqi oil exports, depriving Baghdad of vital income needed to recover from massive allied bombing raids.

Iraq, in offering to end the war, has called for the immediate lifting of sanctions, but the U.S.-led alliance has refused, demanding full compliance with all U.N. resolutions.

Britain's force of 43,000 soldiers, airmen and sailors is the second-largest non-Arab contingent in the alliance fighting Iraq, after that of the United States.

On Thursday, Mr. Baker was to meet French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and Friday, German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Mr. Bush was also to meet with both men.

Britain and France are key allies in the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq and have made a heavy commitment of troops of the multinational effort. Germany's contribution has been mostly financial.

### Hawke: No end to crisis

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Thursday the issue of a Palestinian homeland must be resolved in order to end the crisis in the Middle East.

"We must understand that an end to the war would not be the end of the crisis," Mr. Hawke told reporters after President Bush said allies would suspend combat operations at 0500 GMT.

Mr. Hawke said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership "has done enormous damage to its credibility by the way in which it has conducted itself during this conflict."

But he added there should be a distinction between the Palestinian people and the PLO.

Mr. Hawke cited the security of Israel, the rights of Palestinians and the position of Lebanon as key issues to be addressed in a post-war Middle East.

## Dutch diplomat shot to death in Tunisia

TUNIS (AP) — Unknown gunmen killed a Dutch diplomat who recently finished a stint in Baghdad and was responsible for contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) here, diplomatic sources said Thursday.

No claim of responsibility was issued Thursday for the slaying Wednesday night of Rober-Jan Akkerman, a first secretary at the Dutch embassy, in the northern suburb of Sidi Bou-Said.

"We don't even know that it was a political assassination," said Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman Dig Isha in the Hague.

Tunisian authorities had no comment Thursday on the slaying, but the diplomatic sources cited witnesses as saying Mr. Akkerman, 40, was shot by three gunmen in a car waiting for him to return home.

The Dutch Foreign Ministry said that Mr. Akkerman worked in a two-man post that divided political contact with the PLO between himself and the ambassador. The PLO is headquartered in Tunis.

Mr. Akkerman was the last Dutch diplomat who served in the Iraqi capital before the Netherlands closed its embassy there, according to a Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman.

The Netherlands is one of several Western nations that have been threatened with attacks because of their role in the coalition facing Iraq in the Gulf war.

There are three Dutch navy ships and several dozen medical personnel in the Gulf, along with Patriot anti-missile batteries in Israel and Turkey.

The assassination also came hours after Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek issued

## U.S. army engineers poised to spearhead Kuwait reconstruction

By Martin Morris  
The Associated Press

DHAHRAN — U.S. military engineers in Kuwait are gearing up to clear rubble, repair streets and rebuild seaports under a 90-day emergency programme financed by the emirate's government.

Kuwait officials estimate it will cost at least \$50 billion to rebuild their country and already have signed 171 contracts with U.S. companies. Others have been awarded to several allied nations.

The U.S. army corps of engineers was awarded the \$45-million contract to run the first 90 days of the cleanup. They will not begin before they get the go-ahead from allied military authorities that the city is safe.

Only sketchy reports are available of the extent of destruction. But reports from the city say there is no water or electricity, and Kuwait officials doubt there will be telephone service or medical supplies.

Mehran Nakhjavani, an expert on the Kuwaiti economy who teaches at Montreal's McGill University, said the emirate's desalination plants were destroyed.

Such plants are delicate and, if damaged, could well have to be rebuilt from scratch inside the shell of their old building, Mr. Nakhjavani said. This would take at least three months.

Associated Press reported John King reported from Kuwait City that the city's main power station as well as a backup facility had been destroyed.

Unlike desalination plants, power plant equipment such as turbines is quite robust and some stations could be brought back on line within about a month, Mr. Nakhjavani said.

Mr. King said the roads from the Saudi border were pocked with shell holes. Chunks of splintered oil pipelines littered the main north-south highway.

That damage, though extensive, can be repaired quite quickly. More serious are the cracks in many highway bridges, the results both of allied bombardment and heavy pounding from Iraqi military vehicles that overloaded the bridges.

Abdul Latif Al Hamad, who heads the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, said officials were worried that too many Kuwaitis might flood back home in a hurry an strain overstretched resources.

One of the first priorities is to bring in several satellite dishes to provide international phone lines so exiled Kuwaitis can contact their families and make sure they're safe.

"That way, we can cool down the desire to rush into Kuwait," said Mr. Al Hamad, who moved his headquarters to a temporary office in Bahrain after the Aug. 2

Iraqi invasion.

The largest question mark hangs over the oil industry. Abz are around 600 oil wells, half of Kuwait's producing capacity.

If the explosives that set the fires were placed on the surface of the wells, the damage would be spectacular but not that difficult to repair. The fire can be put out because it is on the surface, and then the wellhead equipment replaced.

But if the Iraqis sank explosives down the wells themselves and detonated them underground, the damage would be much more extensive.

He said it was conceivable that some of the underground oil reservoirs themselves were damaged. In that case, they would have to be completely sealed off and new wells drilled elsewhere in the area.

That would be a painstaking task requiring detailed surveys by sensitive seismological monitors, which cannot work properly if artillery, or the explosions from mine clearance, are going off even dozens of kilometres away.

Mr. Nakhjavani said the Kuwaiti government would put a high priority on restoring some kind of oil production quickly.

He estimated the emirate could produce 100,000 to 200,000 barrels of crude a day within four to six weeks from undamaged wells, after pipelines to the sea have been patched and a makeshift mooring terminal erected.

But Kuwait's central bank governor, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, estimated Wednesday that nine months may be needed before oil production can resume. The varying estimates are a result of the extreme uncertainty as to the amount of damage.

Kuwait was producing more than 1.6 million barrels of oil a day before the Iraqi invasion. There have been some estimates from Kuwait officials that pre-war production levels could be restored within a year to 18 months, but Mr. Nakhjavani called that "just a stab in the dark. No one has any idea."

It will take longer to repair Kuwait's three sophisticated oil refineries, which processed a total of 750,000 barrels of oil a day.

British share

Ten British firms are among an international group of companies shortlisted for lucrative contracts to be awarded next week for emergency repair work in Kuwait.

A total of 36 firms will present bids to the U.S. corps of engineers.

Company representatives said the firms were given 48 hours Wednesday to submit detailed bids for the contracts.

## Limited role seen for Japan

TOKYO (R) — Hopes Japan had of a greater world diplomatic role may have been dashed by its difficulty taking a clear stance on the Gulf war, political analysts said on Thursday.

"I don't think Japan will be providing any political leadership," said Robert Orr, a political scientist and director of the Stanford Centre Japan. "They can do a lot of things, but political leadership isn't one of them."

Though Tokyo came out firmly in support of the U.S.-led war to evict Iraq from Kuwait, Japan and Germany were the only group of seven nations not to commit at least a token force to the Gulf.

A bill that would have paved the way to send Japanese troops to the Gulf in non-combat roles died in parliament last November after critics said it would violate Japan's peace constitution, drafted by U.S. occupation forces after World War II.

Instead, Tokyo chose to contribute money.

However, its decision last September to give \$4 billion was delayed by weeks of agonised debate.

A pledge of another \$9 billion after the war started, coupled with an offer to send military planes to help evacuate refugees, won only lukewarm public support and required a deal with opposition parties to assure passage in parliament.

As for Japan's international role, both the Gulf issue and the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) negotiations test the nature of Japan's contribution to revising the nature of the international system... U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Armacost told Reuters in an interview earlier this week.

Some critics say Japan is failing the test.

"This is not the kind of issue that can be resolved by a cabinet reshuffle, pork-barrel politics or another interpretation of the constitution," wrote University of Tokyo political science Professor Takashi Sasaki in an article this week. "It is a matter which tests the core of Japan's postwar political character, which has been dominated by political isolationism and anti-war sentiment."

"The Gulf crisis almost forced the issue; for now, the LDP (ruling Liberal Democratic Party) has dodged it."

Some political experts say the tough debate over Japan's contribution to the allied war effort stemmed not only from its ban on war, but from an ingrained diplomatic trait — a desire to take a position that avoids angering anyone.

The result, some experts say, is a policy that satisfied no one. "They try so hard to straddle the fence that they get everyone pounding them and then can't figure out why they're not appreciated," Robert Orr said.

Some Japanese political analysts say Tokyo's stance as a non-combatant member of the U.S.-led coalition could facilitate a role as a mediator to help bring Iraq back into the international fold.

"Somehow Iraq has to be rehabilitated along with Kuwait," University of Tokyo political scientist Takashi Inoguchi said.

"Unless they are reconciled in the international community, the Middle East as a whole will be a terribly, terribly difficult place for many years to come. Japan might be able to play some positive role in reconciliation."

Japan's deep pockets might assure it a role in post-war reconstruction of the Gulf region, some analysts said.

"It is probably only Japan and some other Pacific-Asian countries which have some financial power. The United States does not have any, Europe does not have any," Prof. Inoguchi said.

"This financial power might be used positively towards reconstruction and reconciliation," he said.

Already Washington and Tokyo may be heading for a clash over how to channel the vast sums needed for rebuilding.

Washington, hoping to gain as much control as possible over post-war reconstruction policy, has suggested creating a new multilateral Middle East reconstruction bank. Tokyo thinks the funds would best be funnelled through existing multilateral financial institutions.

Prime Minister Kaifu told President Bush in a telephone conversation Thursday that Japan would contribute as much as possible to solving remaining problems in the Gulf, an official said.

Mr. Bush told Mr. Kaifu that although military operations had ceased, "unfortunately, Baghdad Radio is still airing propaganda," said a Foreign Ministry official.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Japan to unfreeze Kuwait assets

TOKYO (R) — Japan's ministry of finance will allow seven Kuwaiti banks to draw on their bank deposits and other financial assets in Japan from March 18, a ministry official said Thursday. Kuwaiti assets in Japan were frozen shortly after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2 to avoid withdrawals by Iraq, he said. The decision was made after a request from Kuwait's central bank and was in line with similar decisions taken by the U.S. Treasury Department and the Bank of England earlier this week, he said. The ministry has asked banks and brokerages to check carefully that deposit withdrawals, money transfers, and sales of stocks and bonds are authentic.

### Dynamite attack on Kuwaiti firms in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Dynamite exploded early Thursday outside the Beirut offices of two companies linked to Kuwait, causing minor damage but no casualties, witnesses said. They said a man threw a stick of dynamite into the entrance of a building where the Bank of Lebanon and Kuwait and Kuwait Airways have offices. The blast, a few hours before a ceasefire was declared in the Gulf, brought to 26 the number of attacks in Lebanon on interests linked to the U.S.-led coalition at war with Iraq.

### Rocket aimed at French embassy

BEIRUT (AP) — Police said Thursday they had fired a rocket attack against the French embassy in west Beirut's Clemenceau Street. A short police statement said the rocket was defused Wednesday by a sepper "a few minutes before the launching time." The statement said the rocket was attached to a timing device and a mine-volt battery. It did not disclose further details. The abortive attack was the latest in a series of such attempts. On Wednesday, a stick of dynamite exploded at the French Cultural Centre in the northern port city of Tripoli, causing damage but no casualties.

### Red Cross set to go to Kuwait

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will soon send representatives into Kuwait for the first time since Iraq invaded the emirate last August, a spokesman said. The humanitarian agency will send eight Swiss delegates from Bahrain in the next day or two who will survey medical needs and make sure all civilians are treated fairly, regardless of nationality. The spokesman also said that about 150 doctors from the Algerian and Tunisian Red Crescent would be flying into the Iraqi capital later this week to reinforce Red Cross medical staff already there. The ICRC added that it was sending three water purification machines, each capable of distilling 80,000 litres per day, as Baghdad's water supply system had broken down. The spokesman said foreigners in Kuwait, such as those who do not have diplomatic representation or Palestinians without official status, could be protected under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, which deals with civilians in time of war. "We will go to verify that all these groups will have the same access to hospitals as other civilians, will have the same treatment, will have the same food and will not meet any special problem because of their nationality," he said.

### Dutch team to visit Kuwait next week

THE HAGUE (R) — A Dutch government delegation will visit Kuwait next week to discuss with Kuwaiti officials the rebuilding of their country in the aftermath of the Gulf war, officials said Thursday. The Dutch Economics Ministry said the delegation, headed by Joop Veling, the ambassador to Kuwait, will offer technical assistance programmes to be subsidised by the Netherlands. Prospects for Dutch firms to participate in the post-war reconstruction of Kuwait will also be discussed, a government spokesman added.

Two reservists first U.S. women killed in Gulf

GREENSBURG, Pennsylvania (R) — Two young women reservists were among those killed in an Iraqi missile attack on a U.S. army barracks in Saudi Arabia, military officials said. They were the first U.S. female soldiers to die in the Gulf war. They were identified as reservists Christine Mays, 22, of Rochester Mills, Pennsylvania, and Beverly Clark, 23, of Armagh, Pennsylvania. Both were members of the 14th Quartermaster Detachment. The two women were among 29 U.S. soldiers killed Monday when a scud slammed into a U.S. army barracks in Saudi Arabia. At least 11 of the 29 dead were believed to be from the 14th and another reserve unit headquartered in western Pennsylvania, officials said.

### Kuwait will not sell Spanish assets

MADRID (R) — Kuwait will not withdraw investments in Spain to help pay for its reconstruction programme following the Gulf war, Spanish Economy Minister Carlos Solchaga said. He told reporters that the Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) had given guarantees to the Spanish government that it would not sell assets here to raise funds. The KIO's main interests in Spain are held by Grupo Torres SA, one of the country's biggest industrial groups in which it has a controlling stake. The KIO has never revealed the value of its investments in Spain. Mr. Solchaga earlier told a joint committee on European community affairs that the negative impact on Spain's economy of the Gulf war would be less than first feared. He noted that the economy would benefit from oil prices seen fluctuating between \$15 to \$20 a barrel, well below the \$25 estimated by the government for the 1991 budget. He said 1991 would be a year of transition for the Spanish economy, in which the government would be hoping for a narrowing of the current account deficit and lower inflation. Success on those fronts would help bring down interest rates, he added.

### U.S. ambassador due in Kuwait

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. ambassador to Kuwait was to return to his embassy Thursday by which time the Kuwaiti government was expected to have taken control of the country, a senior State Department official said late Wednesday. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Ambassador Skip Gnehm would return at the head of a large team to reopen the embassy in Kuwait City. "We are planning to be able to return to our embassy Ambassador Skip Gnehm as early as tomorrow," she said. An official said Washington would not be sending back its ambassador unless it was assured that the government to which he was accredited was also in place. Ms. Tutwiler said Mr. Gnehm, who has been staying close to the Kuwaiti government in exile in Taif, Saudi Arabia, had assembled a team of experts from a variety of different U.S. agencies to accompany him. "The exact composition of the initial team that will be going in with the ambassador depends to a certain extent on the Kuwaiti government having their ministers back and their government back," she said. The U.S. team would include political, economic, consular, public affairs and administrative officers.

### Hizbollah vows to fight U.S. in Gulf

BAALBEK, Lebanon (R) — A leader of Lebanon's pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) said Thursday the "real mother of all battles" has just begun: Between Islam and the United States. "The real mother of all battles will be between the Muslims and the United States... it has just started," Hussein Mouawwi said in the city of Baalbek, 70 kilometres east of Beirut. "Muslims in Iran and all the world will not sit and watch Westerners take control of their wealth and land, they will fight," he said. "We will defend our desecrated shrines and fight for our oil," Mr. Mouawwi said. "The Americans will leave the Muslim lands with disgrace just like they left Beirut." A Hizbollah suicide bomber hit the U.S. marine barracks in Beirut in October 1983, killing 241 U.S. servicemen. The U.S. contingent to the multinational force in Lebanon left several months later.

## Kuwait oil wells may blaze for a year

By Nicholas Moore  
Reuters

LONDON — Kuwait's blazing oil wells, posing a daunting challenge to firefighters, may still be belching smoke from the desert beyond the end of the year, experts say.

"There aren't too many skilled companies capable of handling this kind of work," said a Houston spokesman for a firm of oil industry firefighters. "We'll be there for a year or so."

An expert crew can take anything from one to six weeks to put out an oil fire. Only about 10 such crews may be available worldwide. The U.S. military says some 500 wells are on fire.

"Try the sums on the back of

an envelope," said Geoff Pyne, a London-based energy economist.

Legendary Texan oil firefighter Red Adair, 76, heads one of the firms going to tackle the fires in which Kuwait's sulphur-laden crude oil is burning with an acrid, highly-pollutant smoke.

Minefields and booby traps will complicate the task, although men like Adair, who has been sniped at by jungle guerrillas and blinded for days by hydrogen sulphide fumes, are scarcely strangers to high risk.

"You get to love your work," Adair says.

Kuwaiti oil sources said Wednesday it would be a week before they can even make a general assessment of the

situation. Details may take a month to assemble.

Firefighters say there are two ways to kill a blazing well. They either hit it with explosives to deprive it of oxygen for long enough to snuff out the flames, or drill another hole nearby and fill that with mud or slurry to halt the oil flow.

Both techniques need huge volumes of water to cool the well in preliminary states of the work and this will have to be piped or trucked from the sea.

Providing water and other supplies is in itself a major undertaking likely to last 30 to 45 days.

Besides having a high content of sulphur, crude oil from many Kuwaiti wells surges from below the ground under high pressure.

"High pressure wells are harder to put out," said Pyne, who is with finance house UBS Phillips and Drew. "They could burn for five or 10 years if left to themselves."

Three U.S. firefighting companies have signed up — Red Adair Co. Inc., Bowden Wild Well Control and Boots and Coots Inc., all of Houston. The Kuwaitis have also signed a Canadian outfit, Safety Boss.

These firms are packing equipment, placing orders and working on strategies. Pay rates go up to \$50,000 a day, industry sources say.

Industry analysts say Kuwait had about 743 oil wells producing about 1.6 million barrels a day before Iraq invaded on Aug. 2.

Some environmentalists

have said that if most or all the wells were ablaze, the smoke and soot could blot out the sun and disrupt Asian monsoons which depend on hot air rising over Kuwait.

Carl Sagan, an American scientist who has investigated the after-effects of nuclear explosions, said in January that smoke could shut out the sun in the Gulf for a year.

Most scientists say it is impossible to predict the effect of the smoke on the monsoons. Britain's meteorological office has said that, if fires burned for a year, acid rain would probably downwind of Kuwait for several hundred kilometres.

There would also be a 10 to 20 per cent reduction of daylight in the region.

إلى من لا حول



## Jordan marks 35th anniversary of Arabising the Jordanian army

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Friday marks the 35th anniversary of Arabising the Jordanian armed forces. On March 1, 1956, King Hussein ordered the termination of the services of the then commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces John Gubb and the other foreign leaders, and entrusted Jordanian officers with the command of the armed forces.

This move constituted an extremely important step in view of its timing, as it came at a critical stage of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the dangers posed by the Israeli occupation of Palestine. The step was also a historical turning point, which sparked nationalist and pan-Arab feelings, and demonstrated Jordan's keen interest in ridding itself of the foreign hegemony. The move also reflected His Majesty King Hussein's resolve to build a strong army, capable of defending the homeland and serving the interests of the people.

Since that time, King Hussein has been giving his full attention

to the armed forces and has made every possible effort to provide this army with the most advanced weapons and military equipment to enable it to undertake the duties assigned to it.

On the occasion, Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb sent a cable to King Hussein, expressing his and the armed forces' congratulations and best wishes on this occasion.

In his cable, Abu Taleb voiced the forces' pride in the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and their allegiance to his person. He said that the King's historic step came amid difficult and crucial circumstances in the Arab World and crowned the struggle of the vanguards who led the Great Arab Revolt and sought to uphold its principles and achieve its objectives. Gen. Abu Taleb said that the Arab Nation has faced many challenges targeted at destroying its order, civilisation and culture, but was able to overcome them with stronger resolve and strength to face any challenge.

## Government considers second oil tanker

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government is currently studying leasing a second oil tanker with a 50,000 tonne capacity to maintain sufficient supplies of crude oil in the kingdom, according to an official statement issued Thursday by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

The government last month announced that purchase of a 100,000 tonne capacity tanker to be stationed at Aqaba Port at the cost of \$7.5 million.

According to the announcement Thursday, the oil tanker named Al Azraq has now arrived at Aqaba laden with 90,000 tonnes of crude oil bought from Yemen. The tanker has been bought in conjunction with the Jordan National Shipping Lines.

This is the first time in which the Kingdom buys crude oil from Yemen in this manner, the announcement noted.

Earlier this month, Syria agreed to sell oil to Jordan to make up for the shortfall from Iraq, and some of this oil has already arrived by truck.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran said that the first five trucks loaded with oil and four others filled with gas arrived last Saturday and others are on their way. He said in a statement to the

Jordan Times that Jordan was buying 30,000 tonnes of oil from Syria at market rates.

Jordanian officials had said that Jordan consumed 50,000 barrels of oil daily, but the influx of 300,000 Jordanians with 25,000 cars from Iraq and Kuwait had pushed the demand up to 65,000 barrels prompting the government to ration petrol and to allow private cars to run on alternate days only.

Oil experts said Iraq was supplying Jordan with about 40,000 barrels of oil every day before some of its facilities were hit in allied bombardment which began Jan. 17 and war planes started stranding Jordanian tankers ferrying oil from Iraq to the Kingdom.

Earlier this month, Canada announced that it would come to Jordan's help and would cover the cost of buying oil at open market prices to compensate for cheaper Iraqi oil which Jordan imported at the price of \$16 a barrel.

Iraq supplied the oil repayment for debt incurred during the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iran war. According to Mr. Badran the debt now stood at \$236 million, down from what some officials said, exceeded \$1 billion at one point.



Demonstrators gather at the Hashimiyah Square in downtown Amman Thursday after a 6-kilometre march from the Abdali bus terminal (photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## 10,000 demonstrate in solidarity with Iraq

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Around 10,000 people marched through the streets of Amman Thursday in a show of solidarity with Iraq. It was the single biggest pro-Iraq rally held in Jordan since the eruption of the war in the Gulf on Jan. 17. The demonstrators carried banners that supported the steadfastness of the Iraqi people in the face of the heavy bombardment and ground attacks by the 30-member, U.S.-led coalition against Iraq.

The mood of the demonstrators was jubilant as they hailed and welcomed the call for ceasefire by U.S. President George Bush. "The United States was forced to accept a ceasefire because it suffered many casualties. It is a victory for Iraq, because the ceasefire was attained under Iraqi conditions," Nabil Allan, an engineer, contended. He also added that Iraq's stand for forty days in the face of "aggression" by the allies is proof of victory. On the other hand, some people were more cautious in their reaction towards the ceasefire. "I

don't think this is end. On the contrary, this is the beginning of a very dangerous stage in this conflict. I believe this is a truce not a total ceasefire," Mohammad Taleb told the Jordan Times. He attributed his scepticism to the fact that it was a decision taken by George Bush and not the United Nations Security Council. "Usually when you have a ceasefire, the U.N. Security Council is the one that orders it," Taleb said.

Another demonstrator, Rashid Alqam, said that he believed

the United States made a grave mistake by following the withdrawing Iraqi forces into their territories. "Now the Iraqis are fighting for their sovereignty and are more willing to sacrifice in order to maintain their integrity," he said. "American penetration into Iraqi territory is aimed at occupying this territory and using it as a bargaining chip against the Iraqis," Alqam added.

A professor in political science, Dr. Shebadeh Abdul-Hafez, said that the Iraqis became convinced when the Americans entered

their borders that "the aim of the aggressors was not to liberate Kuwait but to destroy Iraq's military, economic and social infrastructure." "Destroying Iraq is part of America's new world order," he said. "I think that Saddam's acceptance of all 12 U.N. resolutions put the U.S. in a very tight spot. Now they have to tackle the Palestinian problem, they can no longer ignore it."

"Saddam revived the Palestinian problem, and established the spirit of jihad," Ibrahim Attiyeh, a student at the University of Jordan said. "He broke the myth

that Israel was untouchable, and brought the Palestinian cause into the limelight," he added.

The demonstration was organised by Jordanian professional association and labour unions.

Some demonstrators were glad that hostilities were over, but showed disappointment with the role of some Arab nations in the region. "We could have taken this chance to solve all the outstanding problems in the region if some Arab nations played a more active role and joined hands with Iraq," a young demonstrator who withheld his name said.

## Anti-coalition protest spreads to elite school

By Sama Attiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The bitterness towards the United States and the West that grew among Jordanians since the Gulf crisis started on Aug. 2 — and the bombardment of Iraq by the U.S.-led alliance for forty days — has infected pupils of one of Jordan's top schools, the Amman Baccalaureate School (ABS).

Driven by a surging feeling of Arab nationalism, about 200 pupils of the private school Wednesday went on strike for three periods (about two and a half hours) not only to support Iraq, but also to demand the resignation of their British headmaster and head of the senior school.

Mais Darwazah, a 15-year-old tenth-grader, told the Jordan Times that about 200 of the junior and high school pupils marched in the campus carrying Iraqi flags and chanting pro-Iraq slogans.

During the march, the high-school pupils were able to attract the children from the elementary school who defied their teachers to join the demonstration, she said.

She added that the marchers ended up in front of the administration and demanded the resignation of their headmaster and head of the senior school, Boyd Roberts and Nick Bowley respectively.

Neither could be reached by the Jordan Times for comment. "We demanded an Arab administration for the school," Mais said, adding that they chanted, "Out, out, we want an Arab administration."

"It is very frustrating that all other schools go out on demonstrations in Amman and we are not even told about them," said Mais, who

was speaking on behalf of her colleague friends. "We need an Arab administration that thinks and feels like us."

The pupils had been complaining that some of the foreign administrators had left the country during the war and did not return until four weeks after school reopened, inducing a feeling that they had somehow "betrayed us during difficult times and when they were needed." They claimed that the two administrators were offered higher salaries in order to come back to Jordan, something they believe is not deserved.

Some pupils even demanded to study only in the Arabic language and not in English.

Mohammad Alayyan, the 17-year-old president of the ABS student council, told the Jordan Times that the march was originally organised to express support for Iraq, and that the students had misunderstood that the administration was run by foreigners.

"The administration is an Arab and the board of directors are Arabs," explained Mohammad, referring to a conviction he had after meeting and discussing the issue openly with the board of directors on Wednesday afternoon after the unprecedented demonstration in that school.

He said only about 25 students had wanted the resignation of the British administrators, contradicting reports by other students who said that most of the senior school pupils made that demand.

"Pupils demanded that Mr. Roberts come out to meet the demonstrators and express support for (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein, and he told us that he could not do that," Mohammad said.

He added that after he and representatives from the student body met with the board, they explained to him that they needed Mr. Roberts "because there was no Arab or Jordanian who qualifies for this position because contacts are needed with the outside."

Sharifa Zain Nasser, the director of ABS's fundraising and development, described the discussion between the representatives of the students and members of the board as "very open with no hard feelings."

She told the Jordan Times that the board explained the policy of the school, adding that the students had only felt let down by the expatriate teachers who left the country.

"It was explained to them that the school was a non-profit organisation headed by the Hashemite Society for Education, and told them that we prefer to have Arab and Jordanian teachers," Sharifa Zain said. "But sometimes you can't find the qualified teacher needed and have to employ non-Arabs."

She predicted that there will be other marches within the campus, but marches in support of Iraq.

A 15-year-old twelfth pupil who did not want to be identified by name told the Jordan Times that the student council president had promised the students that the foreign administration would resign.

Mais insisted that Arabs were needed in the administration positions. "For our school to work right, our principles should be Arab and think the way we do," she said.

The pupil who requested anonymity said that her colleagues had given the British administrators until Saturday to resign.

What if nothing happens? "We'll protest again until they do," she said.

## Iraq's objectives achieved — Iraqi official

By Saeeda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "The (real) war has just begun. Our role was to implant the seed of goodness in the soul of every Arab and Muslim individual, and we have succeeded in doing that. The war has proved that this Arab Nation is capable of defeating any aggression no matter how strong and violent it is," said Mohammad Al Hayyali, head of the Professional Unions Complex in Iraq, who is on a temporary visit to Amman.

Mr. Hayyali expressed satisfaction and content over the current events and what he saw as the victory of the Iraqis and described this experience as evidence that the Arab Nation will "stay alive" and will not die; "especially if there exists a national and sincere leadership that shoulders the Arab yearning for unified national action to liberate our territories and preserve our dignity."

Mr. Hayyali confirmed that a

solution to the Palestinian question, being a priority in Iraq's plans, will soon be found. "Certainly the Palestinian issue will be addressed. We hope that an international conference will be held, because this is what we aimed at in the first place and it was an essential part of our programme," he maintained.

However, the Iraqis were evidently disappointed with other Arab countries' stands during the war, according to Mr. Hayyali. "I put the blame on all Arab regimes. We have not experienced until now any real national stand with Iraq," he said.

"We had hopes that the Arab street would do more than just holding marches and giving speeches that have not served to achieve anything. There must have been more than this emotional and routine state of condemnation and denunciation; a state that should have changed into a full mobilisation of the Arab street and hitting foreign interests."

Inertia in the Arab populace

was also attributed by Mr. Hayyali to the envy and jealousy of many leaders, as well as Western media's news blackout during the ground war. "Misinformation has succeeded in affecting Arab people psychologically," he said. "It was aimed at destroying and weakening the Arab spirit through its poisonous means and devious methods."

However, Iraq's military machine has not been destroyed and a great part of it remained intact, according to Mr. Hayyali. "The well-organised Iraqi withdrawal proves that," he explained. "The 110,000 tanks on Iraq did not cause any retreat or fear on the part of the Iraqis. On the contrary, it reinforced their stand and made them more committed to national principles and morals in defending the castle of Arabism," he stressed.

"Saddam is a man who does not fear anything and who has faith in national causes," Mr. Hayyali said. "He knows no defeat."

### JANDA lauds King's position

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA) Thursday lauded His Majesty King Hussein's principled position which rejects bowing down to political and economic pressures and opposes foreign aggression against the Iraqi and Palestinian people. Retired army Lieutenant General Mashhour Hashdita of JANDA affirmed in a cable he sent Thursday to King Hussein JANDA's support for the King. JANDA also called for strengthening links between the members and the leaderships of the one people in Iraq, Jordan and Palestine to be able to confront the common enemy and abort all the "enemy's plots and evil designs."

### Shoul inspects relief centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman governor Jawdat Al Shoul who is also chairman of Amman governorate Civil Defence Department Thursday inspected a relief and first aid centre established by the Jordanian Hashemite Charitable Committee for Relief, Development and Arab Cooperation at the International Auto Centre in Marj Al Hammam area. Shoul was briefed by the director of the centre, which includes a field hospital and a refugee camp, on the activities of the centre and the services it provides in emergency cases.

### Parliament delegation ends Turkey visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation returned home from Turkey Thursday after a several day visit during which it met with several Turkish parliamentarians and heads of Turkish parties. The delegation comprised deputies Ali Al Faqir and Fuad Khalafat.

### Financial course ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A week-long training programme on dealing with foreign currency and monetary markets was concluded here Thursday. The programme, organised by Jordan's Institute of Management, was aimed at giving participants a better perspective on the dealings of foreign currency and to the dangers inherent in such dealings. Taking part in this programme were several officials from various financial, commercial and industrial institutions. Another week-long training programme on the use of computers in accounting and finance sections organised for managers and officials from various industrial, financial and service institutions was also concluded Thursday.

### Abdadi, Gharalbeh discuss land

IRBID (Petra) — Irbid governor Faysal Al Abdadi met Thursday with the director general of the Land and Registration Department, Ali Al Gharalbeh. Abdadi and Gharalbeh discussed the activities of the department in Irbid Governorate and issues related to parcelisation of land.

### SENATE: The Upper House of Parliament Thursday discussed articles of the provisional law of the Higher Court of Justice. The Senators approved several articles of the proposed law and made slight amendments to others. The Senate, meeting under the chairmanship of its speaker Ahmad Al Lawat, adjourned its discussion of the Higher Court of Justice's provisional law for further consultations with its legal committee. The Senate also decided to postpone a presentation by Prime Minister Mudar Badran on the political situation in the region to another closed session, and until new information about the situation in the Gulf is made available.



### Terms

(Continued from page 1)

The council meeting broke up in the afternoon with no indications that a formal meeting would be held soon to adopt an official ceasefire.

Kuwaiti Ambassador Mohammad Abdul Hassan said outstanding concerns must be resolved before peace can be formally declared.

"That is what we expect first, the acceptance of what President Bush requested on behalf of the coalition," he said.

Mr. Abdul Hassan said Iraq is holding about 22,000 Kuwaiti civilians and another 8,632 Kuwaiti prisoners of war.

"We hope this is the beginning of the end of this terrible tragedy," Mr. de Cuellar told reporters as he entered U.N. headquarters earlier Thursday. Now, he said, "it is for the Security Council to reach the necessary conclusions."

Iraq first announced it had accepted two of the U.N. resolutions, then later Wednesday in a

letter to the Security Council it agreed to all 12 resolutions. About two hours later, Mr. Bush announced the ceasefire.

Yemen's Ambassador Abdalla Saleh Al Ashtal said the council must now decide how long the allied forces should remain in southern Iraq and under what conditions they will leave.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar has said he was ready to send in U.N. peacekeeping to monitor a ceasefire, if asked by the council.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) demanded Thursday that the Security Council enforce its resolutions against Israel the same way it did against Iraq.

"All efforts should be made now on being deployed with the view of resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict, with the same rapidity as that which settled the Gulf crisis, on a basis of international legality," said Yasser Abed Rabbo.

Mr. Abed Rabbo, a member of the PLO's Executive Committee, urged all Arab countries to pressure the Security Council to press no double-standard exists in the Middle East.

### World

(Continued from page 1)

U.N. vote that authorised force against Iraq.

Egypt's Information Minister Safwat Al Sherif said his government will speed up establishment of an Arab-based security system to facilitate the pullout of non-Arab coalition forces.

Across Europe and Asia, governments voiced relief that the shooting had stopped. Some looked further, to long-term Middle East peace and reconstruction in the war zone.

"The end of military activities, after the misery that we have seen and heard in the past weeks, is to be welcomed," said Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky. "It is also to be welcomed that a spoke has been put in the wheels of an aggressor."

Norway offered humanitarian aid. Belgium said it was ready to treat Iraqi wounded. Japan said it would aid Kuwait.

"This was a day of victory for the U.N.," said Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen.

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# Jordan Times

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Chairman of the Board of Directors:  
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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Editor-in-Chief:  
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
Telephone: 6671716, 670141-4  
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO  
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## Beyond the war ...

THE WAR is over: The immense suffering, the human tragedy, the massive devastation that it has caused will be with us for a long time to come. Was it all necessary? Could it have been avoided? These and many other questions will be asked. Volumes will be written on this war. But it is too early to tell whether convincing — or correct — answers can ever be found, whether memory of the nightmare will ever fade.

For most of us here in Jordan, the war was not only senseless, but pointless as well. Members of the coalition, particularly its leader the U.S., see things in different light. We will probably never see eye to eye with them on this one. In the long term, history will be the judge. For now, one has to look ahead. The lessons learned will have to be put to good use. Iraq is down but not out. It will have to be rebuilt and reconstructed. So will Kuwait. So will the damage that has to be repaired, the destruction that has to be reversed. The casualty, the bitterness, the hatred have to be replaced with bridges of mutual respect and understanding. It will be a stupendous task, but nevertheless one that has to be undertaken and accomplished.

Central to this endeavour will be efforts to resolve all outstanding problems and issues that plague this part of the world. Sincerity, depth, fairness and justice will have to be the guidelines.

The Palestinian problem has to be tackled and solved right away — not at the expense of the PLO or the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. A settlement that is honourable and lasting has to be found, addressing rights where they have to be addressed and reaching roots that have to be reached. A formula for distributing wealth has to be devised. The poorer nations will not have to beg for subsistence and help. The rich will have to give. The less fortunate cannot possibly be expected to remain unfortunate for very long.

Democracy, freedom and independence are inalienable rights that cannot be denied to any people or state. Tyrannies and monopolies and repression will have to end. The so-called guardians of human rights cannot be selective in applying their standards and principles. Every man and woman has the right to be free. Everybody is equal before God and the law.

Mass destruction weapons have to be eliminated from this region. If not from the face of the earth. Double standards and selectivity in applying rules to one state rather than the other should not be tolerated. Hypocrisy and duplicity, particularly by the West, have led to war and destruction. They could do the same in the future if they stay unchecked.

Foreign forces and troops will have to go back to where they came from. The era of colonialism is gone for ever. And the peoples of the region have to themselves take care of their security and the stability of their world. Recipes made or imposed by others cannot work. They will backfire the moment they are introduced.

The Arab World will have to find itself again. Continued animosity and distrust will not serve the cause of peace and progress. The Arabs will have to realize that fissures in their ranks have nearly caused their whole world to explode into pieces. Finally, victory cannot be claimed by any side or party to this war. Victory can be claimed only when true peace is made and only by those who make it.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE UNITED STATES is wrong to imagine that with its air power, it has imposed its respect and hegemony on the Arabs and Muslims, said Al Ra'i Arabi daily Thursday. Indeed, with its arrogant aggression the United States' credibility is at its lowest ebb, not only due to the huge losses it has suffered in the war, but also because it has ended the help of 30 nations to assist it in its aggression on an Arab country, the paper pointed out. With the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, the reason for continuing the war has ended, and the United Nations Security Council resolutions have been met, and therefore any attempt to pursue the war on the part of the U.S.-led alliance simply means a breach of the United Nations charter and all international rules, the paper said. What the United States is doing now is carrying out an invasion of a sovereign state and member of the United Nations organization, for the only reason of maintaining its drive to destroy Iraq and the Iraqi people, the paper added. It said that this shameful American action is bound to sow the seeds of bitterness and enmity for the United States in the whole Arab region, and Washington's continued show of arrogance is bound to destabilize security and peace, and deal a detrimental blow to the future of the whole region. The consequences of continued aggression on Iraq, the paper noted, can by no means be in favour of the United States, because the Arabs have realised by now that the aggression is directed against the whole Arab nation and is designed to achieve Israel's expansionist goals. Therefore, it said, the Arabs bound to take whatever measures they can and utilise all available means to defend themselves and thwart the aggressors' conspiracy and aims.

Now that Iraq has pulled out its forces from Kuwait and recognised all U.N. Security Council resolutions, why should the United States, which had bragged about the need for Iraq to meet these requirements to stop the fighting, continue to invade Iraqi territory? asked Sawt Al Shaab Arabi daily. The world community fully realises the fact that Bush and his allies have expanded the international legitimacy in order to achieve their own selfish aims in Iraq, and impose hegemony on the Arab World, said the paper. When the aggression started, the allied forces justified their raids on Iraqi cities and their barbaric crimes on the civilian population of Iraq by stressing that this was needed in order to force Iraq out of Kuwait, the paper noted. Now that the Iraqis are out of Kuwait and have recognised all the U.N. Security Council resolutions, there can be no justification or excuse for any U.S. soldier to fire a single shot on the Iraqi side, said the paper. But it added, should the aggression continue and the conspiracies sustain, the Iraqis know how to defend their land and their future and will by no means enable the aggressors to achieve their evil goals.

## After the devastation, the light: A time to rebuild Iraq

By Dr. Shamil Kubba

THE DEXTERITY, valour and stalwartness of the Arab Nation, of which Iraq and its heroic people are an integral part, needs no elucidation. Likewise, the infinite resilience of this great nation to overcome and absorb enormous tragedy and hardship is legendary.

Even during these dark hours, with the scent of death saturating the air, many Arab and Iraqi economists see in the country's destruction an analogy with the destruction of Germany and Japan during the Second World War. These economists are confident that once this ravaged war is over, Iraq too will witness a great building and technological boom, perhaps the greatest in the country's glorious 1900-year history.

This does not mean that the country's rebuilding process will be all honey and roses. Indeed, many difficulties will continue to confront the people of Iraq — no matter who is in power. Not least of all is the expected avalanche of international litigation that looms over the horizon, particularly regarding war reparations.

However, many other pertinent questions also need to be asked, addressed and answered. For example, will post-war Iraq be liable for debts incurred prior to the invasion of Kuwait, or will these debts be forfeited? Also, what of the United Nations resolutions, will they be nullified? And who will pay for the mass destruction that has been inflicted on Iraq? Will it be the Iraqi people who bear the brunt of the cost, or will the international community offer meaningful financial and technical assistance?

If the Iraqi people are forced to foot such an enormous bill, from their own resources, how it proposes to do so, is a 64 dollar question. With the price of oil dropping significantly and the value of the American dollar systematically and deliberately falling, the Iraqi people may have to endure years of austerity. Optimistic estimates suggest that it would take at least a decade to rebuild Iraq, resulting in a bill somewhere in the region of \$150-200 billion.

Yet not a single specialist has even started to undertake a detailed analysis of what will take place, once the war is over. One thing is certain however, a task force — either Iraqi or from the United Nations — needs to be set up urgently, and begin a survey of the devastation and destruction that has taken place in the region. Once the magnitude of

the catastrophe is assessed, proposals can be put forward on how best to rebuild the country and get it on its feet again.

Unlike the Kuwaitis and Saudis, a large percentage of Iraqis are highly educated and possess considerable expertise. They will therefore demand to play a major role in the planning and management of any post-war reconstruction programme, rather than merely dish out the money, as is normally the case with the Kuwaitis and Saudis.

As part of its strategy for a quick recovery, Iraq will need to rely heavily on friendly states (assuming no radical leadership changes take place) like Jordan (for manufactured products), Sudan and Yemen (for labour) and some of the Eastern bloc countries like the Soviet Union, China,

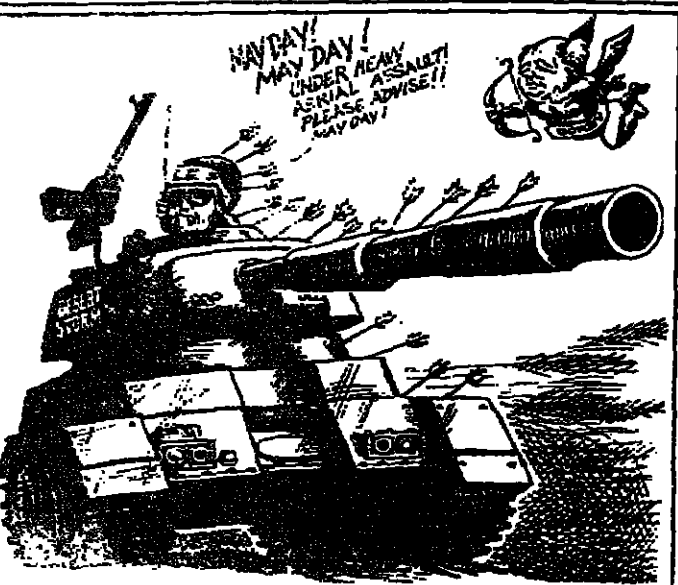
Yugoslavia and North Korea for the undertaking of large building projects and certain expertise regarding the repair of oil refineries, etc. Close cooperation with Iran is expected. Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, on the other hand, will be looking largely to American firms for assistance in their rebuilding programmes, and secondly to British and French firms. Since these western firms will be employed for specialised tasks, it is unlikely that their presence will have any significant effect on the coalition's ability to pull themselves out of their economic recession.

Much of the money devoted to the region's reconstruction will go towards rebuilding and repairing oil refineries, telecommunications systems, the electric grid, military projects, industry, as well as bridges,

roads, etc. There will probably be a massive use of prefabricated building systems. But the top priority must be to return basic services as soon as possible.

As in the past, many of the Iraqi contracts will be negotiated directly as opposed to issuing tenders, which are often time consuming, and it seems likely that in Iraq for example, many contracts will go to firms from countries that supported Iraq in the Gulf war, and secondly, those that played a neutral role.

Finally, the only way the Arabs will ever succeed in controlling their own destiny is by becoming self-sufficient, particularly in agriculture. One way to do this is for Arab countries to form a "Common Arab Economic Market" and to purchase as little as possible from outside this community.



## Kremlin power play underpins push for peace

By Thomas Ginsberg  
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — The allied forces' apparently crushing defeat of Iraq is spurring a political assault in Moscow against one of Mikhail Gorbachev's last strongholds of reform: foreign policy.

Traditionalists in the military and government are rising in the void left by former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and are putting pressure on the president to block U.S. domination in the Middle East, Soviet analysts say.

And the West's rejection of Gorbachev's peace efforts may have just his ability to fend off the conservatives by brandishing foreign policy gains, as he has done in the past.

It appears to be seen how far Gorbachev will bend away from support for the U.S. position on Iraq. But most observers think the pressure is having a limited impact on the leader, who has little liberal support remaining.

Gorbachev is making some concessions to the military, but that doesn't mean he is guided by it, said Natalya Sennikova, deputy director of the Institute for World Economics and International Relations.

Gorbachev has been pursuing a hard-line peace effort for weeks before the ground war.

The efforts followed weeks of warnings in the media and by Soviet officials, including Gorbachev, that the United States was not to go beyond the U.N. Security Council resolutions in the war against Iraq.

Even after failing to persuade U.S. President George Bush to delay the land offensive, Soviet leaders kept trying to squeeze every possible hope out of their peace plan, and served the first champagne to call for a ceasefire on Tuesday.

Presidential Adviser Yevgeny Primakov, an old Iraqi hand, is leading a faction that "wants to save face for Saddam," said Andrei Korotnikov, an analyst at the Institute for USA and Canada.

Primakov's views may hold sway even over Shevardnadze's replacement, Alexander Bessmertnykh, who has not yet built his own constituency at the foreign ministry after six years as ambassador to Washington.

Korotnikov also said the Soviet military is apprehensive about a dominant role by the U.S. military in Iraq, which was once securely in the Soviet camp. Another analyst, Vladimir Nosenko, said some generals clearly favour keeping Saddam in power.

The United States has made no secret of its desire for Saddam's departure.

One Soviet general already has warned publicly about the fighting, which is near the Soviet Union's southern border, and said anti-aircraft batteries were on the alert.

Moscow long has maintained a strong force in heavily Muslim Soviet central Asia and the Caucasus republics of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia. The military has short-range missiles, tank battalions and infantry regiments in the area.

Air assault bridges, including helicopter gunships and paratrooper battalions, have been deployed in central Asia in recent years, according to U.S. military reports.

Another pressure point on Gorbachev comes from Soviet Muslims, who number an estimated 80 million in a country of 280 million. Some signs of pro-Iraq sentiment already have surfaced, including formation of a "young Saddamites" group in central Asia.

While they have not united so far against Gorbachev for supporting the anti-Iraq alliance, there is widespread fear they could rebel if the Kremlin sits by while their religious brethren in Iraq are put under the Western thumb.

Soviet experts said Kremlin leaders envision a new regional security pact under U.N. auspices that would include the five Security Council members — the United States, Soviet Union, France, Britain and China — along with all major regional powers, including Israel and Iraq. It would be formed during a regional peace conference after the war.

"It must be a new balance of power," said Vitaly V. Naumkin, a Moscow analyst at the Institute of Oriental Studies.

## Cat and mouse game with Israeli army

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank — Activist Israeli doctors probed army defences all morning in an effort to deliver a van-load of baby milk formula to Palestinians in the West Bank.

Soldiers played a cat and mouse game as the doctors tried to focus international attention on the hardships of 1.75 million Palestinians living under curfew in the Israeli occupied territories.

The doctors, who received the milk formula from an American Jewish charity, had foreign journalists and a British parliamentarian in tow to witness last Wednesday's encounters with the military in the rocky hills around Nablus.

The West Bank city has been one of the most violent centres of the Palestinian intifada for the past three years.

The doctors were looking for a breach in the green line separating Israel from the West Bank.

After an hour's haggling at the first roadblock, an Israeli soldier announced the verdict handed down over field radio by his commander.

"The answer is no, you must turn back. I am only giving orders," he said.

Rubama Marton, a member of the Association of Israeli-Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights, refused to budge that easily.

"I asked him if that phrase about obeying orders did not remind him of something in history."

"First he said TV and media were not allowed in and then he said food was definitely out too," said Marton, a small and soft-spoken woman with a steely air about her.

Her colleague Dr. Marwan Khatib, an Arab citizen of Israel, was anything but surprised by the setback at the checkpoint.

"Baby food and journalists — this is a terrible combination for the Israeli army," he sighed.

Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip territories, like their leaders in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), support Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The occupied territories have been under partial curfew since the start of the Gulf war on January 17, but wild cheering has erupted when Iraqi Scud missiles have landed on Israel.

"The main reason for the

curfew is that it's a kind of punishment for supporting Saddam," Marton said.

The curfew clearly has the support of ordinary Israelis even though it is playing havoc with industries which depend on Palestinian workers.

Only about 10 per cent of the 120,000 workers who normally commute from the occupied territories to factories and farms in Israel are currently allowed to leave their areas.

The result, say Marton and Palestinian leaders, is acute poverty, disrupted schooling and a serious risk to the health of the elderly and the very young.

"People are living day by day. They've started selling off their jewellery to buy food," Marton said.

Such claims are nonsense, say army spokesmen in Tel Aviv.

"There is no shortage of baby food, there is an abundance. These people are just being political," one spokesman said.

So why prevent the press from entering the occupied territories to see for themselves? "The Scuds are sufficient pressure for the moment. Without wanting it, the press

creates more agitation in the territories simply by its presence," was the army's reply.

Undaunted by their initial failure, Marton and her convoy eventually found a back route winding through olive groves and headed for the Al Tabb hospital in Nablus.

More palaver with tough-looking Israeli soldiers in flak jackets ended in compromise. The doctors could distribute their milk and the journalists could get out of town at once, under military escort.

"This is a closed area today. It's closed to everybody," a young officer, more accustomed to facing stones than note-pads, repeated patiently.

The British member of parliament, George Galloway of the Labour Party, was questioned by soldiers for two hours after an incident in the casbah, the doctors said later.

"Some soldiers were running after children and George was arrested after he went to investigate," Marton said.

Journalists from Reuters and Tokyo Broadcasting System were detained for 90 minutes while soldiers and policemen sought confirmation that they were free to leave Nablus.

## Gulf war puts Pope at odds with allies

By Philip Pulella  
Reuters

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul's firm anti-war stand and the allies' rejection of proposals to end the Gulf fighting have sown the seeds of a rift between the Vatican and the West over the future of the Middle East.

Since the fighting began last month, diplomats from some countries in the U.S.-led coalition of Western and Arab nations have privately expressed irritation over the Pope's refusal to state unequivocally that the Gulf war was a just one.

Although he has condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait as a gross violation of international law, the Pope has repeatedly stressed that war would only aggravate Middle East problems.

Several times during the crisis he also effectively linked an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait to a Middle East peace conference — anathema to Washington and some of its allies.

The rift came to a head on Monday when the Vatican newspaper fiercely attacked Washington for launching a ground offensive instead of pursuing a Soviet peace plan.

The Vatican had given its full backing to the Soviet plan and the stinging front-page editorial reflected the holy see's frustrations.

Without waiting for the fighting to end, the Pope has called his own Middle East summit of Church leaders for next week and Vatican sources say he is determined to use the gathering to tackle explosive issues such as the Palestinian question.

At his general audience on Wednesday, the Pope prayed for a swift end to the sufferings of "the wounded, prisoners, refugees and entire civilian populations," and said all peoples in the region deserved "a just and lasting peace."

Vatican sources say the Pope's stand has been guided by his desire to support every effort to stop the war.

He also wants to thwart a possible Islamic backlash against Christians and secure a comprehensive post-war settlement.

"The constant refusal of the U.S. to sit down and talk out the entire Middle East situation has been a stumbling block and this must be overcome after the war," said one Vatican source.

"I don't think the mood here in the Vatican is anti-U.S. or anti-allies but there was a feeling that an opportunity for a negotiated solution was missed. That would have been the civilised way to go."

In order to present a common Catholic front on the future of the Middle East the Pope has called an unprecedented summit of church leaders for next week to try to influence the way the region will look going forward.

Catholic patriarchs from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Iraq will hold talks with Vatican officials and churchmen from Western countries in the anti-Iraq coalition.

The Pope feels that a Palestinian homeland is vital to a lasting peace in the region. Diplomats believe this is where the rift between the Vatican and the United States and Israel will be most evident.

The Vatican has said it cannot grant diplomatic recognition to Israel until the Palestinians get a homeland.

Church sources said that now the war was under way, they expected the Vatican to do everything possible to show that it was a political and not a religious conflict.

"Countries that are closer to the Arab World than the United States and have to deal with the situation in a realistic way have to face the possibility of a reaction against Christianity and the West," a church scholar said.

"For the future of the tiny Christian communities in Muslim areas and for the future of relations between the West and the Arab World there must be an effort to sit down and negotiate."

## Pandora's box of riddles awaits 'new world order'

By Walter R. Meers  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After waging war against Iraq by schedule, the United States and its allies are going to have to impose peace without benefit of such military precision.

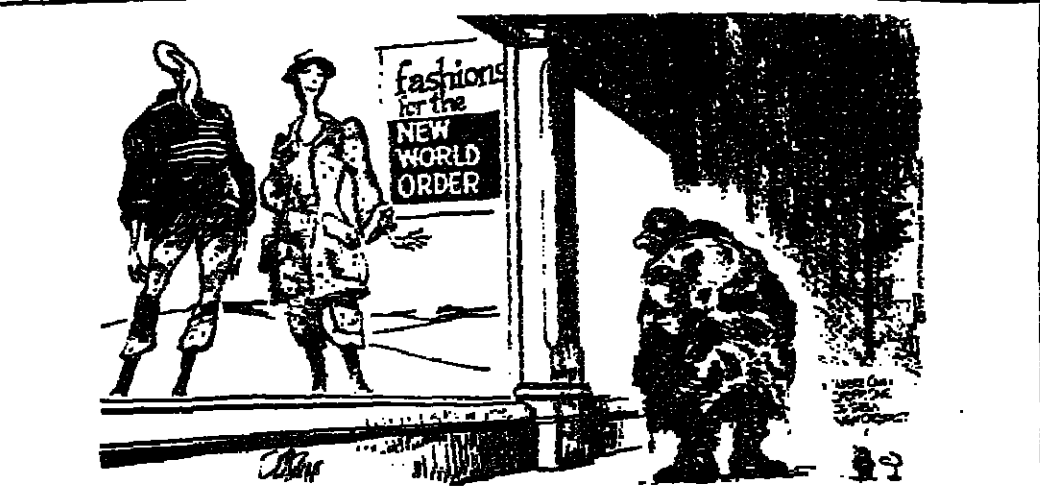
Terms of peace haven't yet been settled among the partners.

In part, that reflects the disparate and sometimes competing interests of nations that signed on with the U.S.-led coalition, actively or in sideline support. They agree on the objective of evicting Iraq from Kuwait, but they aren't yet dealing with the questions that lie beyond war aims.

Even American plans for the postwar Middle East remain subject to internal debate.

There is no sign of White House enthusiasm for an economic aid plan proposed by Secretary of State James A. Baker. Opposition leaders in Congress have rejected the proposal. The White House spokesman now terms it "an idea to pursue when the conflict is over" and all kinds of reconstruction plans are considered.

That contrasts markedly with war planning. According to the administration, the date and hour for a ground offensive was set at least two weeks in advance.



At every point since President George Bush ordered the first air strikes on Iraq, the campaign has been described as proceeding according to plan.

"The liberation of Kuwait is on course and on schedule," Bush said Monday. "We have the initiative we intend to keep it."

He was talking about military operations, but that could be applied diplomatically as well.

"Our success in the Gulf will bring with it not just a new opportunity for peace and stability in a critical part of the world," Bush said, "but a chance to build a new world order based upon the

principles of collective security and the rule of law."

The American president's hopes for a postwar "new world order" won't work without a role for the Soviet Union. And that's why the administration has spoken approvingly of Moscow's efforts to broker peace with Iraq. Middle East relationships are even more complicated.

The broader Arab-Israeli peace issue will inevitably come due after the war is over. In the coalition, the United States is allied with Arab states that have been militant enemies of Israel.

Heeding U.S. counsel, Israel has avoided strain that could have fractured the alliance by withholding immediate retaliation against Iraq for repeated Scud missile attacks.

Both sides are likely to expect diplomatic rewards in postwar bargaining.

The terms on which the war ends, and the fate of Iraq's President, Saddam Hussein, will determine the immediate aftermath. The administration says most U.S. forces will begin withdrawing quickly when the fighting is over.



## Scientists fear ancient sites of Mesopotamia hit

By Mike Feinsilber  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Every bomb that falls on Iraq hits Mesopotamia underneath, the place where civilisation started. Now, American planners, wary lest the fighting sweep away treasures of the ancient world, are turning to an expert for advice.

"These remains are a priceless heritage for all mankind," nine scholars wrote recently in an appeal to President George Bush to protect the historic and archaeological sites and museums of Iraq.

Since then, one of the scholars, Robert Adams, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has been asked by the government for information on what sites to avoid. "It is my understanding that they asked him for information and he supplied that information," Smithsonian spokeswoman Madeleine Jacobs said Tuesday. "I don't know what the specific information was and I don't know if it was the CIA. It was government officials."

Archaeologists who have worked in southern Iraq are holding their breath and hoping that war will not shatter the treasures there that still inspire wonder and contain clues to mysteries lingering over the dawn of civilisation. "Iraq is one big archaeological site," said Donald Hansen of New York University, who has been excavating there for 35 years and would be digging now if it weren't for the war. "None of us know anything specifically, but one can only assume, with all that bombing, that some things have been damaged."

Some scholars think future generations will look upon anyone who destroys Iraq's buried history as barbarians. And they suggested as much in their letter to Mr. Bush.

In World War II, allied bombers spared German-occupied Paris, "the city of light," and avoided hitting such rich repositories as the Vatican in Rome and the emperor's palace in Tokyo. "If we were making war on Egypt, we would be a lot more reverent," said the University of Chicago's McGovern. "No one would dare bomb King Tut's tomb or the Pyramids, he said."

Since 1964, Mr. Gibson has been digging at Nippur, which for

6,000 years was the seat of the Mesopotamian religion.

Ten or 15 metres beneath the sands of Iraq are perhaps half a million sites, including 100 or 200 ancient cities, most still uncovered. They are the stuff of history yet to be recorded.

They offer to tell what life was like in the place where judo-Christian ideas were first conceived, where mankind learned to write, to codify law and to raise crops and animals. It is where Abraham, the progenitor of the Hebrews, was born and where both Jonah of the Bible and the whale who swallowed him are said to be buried.

Gibson said scholars could list 20 crucial places that should be spared. Because no damage has been reported at the excavations at Babylon, near the industrial city of Hilla, he thinks allied commanders have declared that site off-limits.

In their letter to Mr. Bush, Mr. Adams and his eight fellow scholars said that "accident, miscalculation and uncertainty play a major part in every war."

They added they could "only solemnly urge that all parties to the hostilities take every possible measure to protect them and to avoid military operations in their immediate vicinity."

"International crime or careless error leading to their destruction would almost equally darken the record of any nation or individual responsible."

Gerold Cooper of Johns Hopkins University is sensitive to the perception that his profession worries more about what the war is doing to objects than to people. Not so, he said, but "we worry about the material damage because this is where we work, this is our career."

Some archaeologists remain optimistic that Iraq's antiquities will outlast the war.

"Buried sites will not be too badly injured," predicted Gus Van Beek of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. "It must be remembered that they built with sun-dried mud brick, which would absorb a shock better than a rigid building."

Added Mr. Cooper: "The great danger to antiquities is not the stuff in the ground, but the things that have been restored and put on display."

resolution question and all those issues, so we still have some very difficult days ahead in terms of getting compliance," Mr. Fitzwater added.

U.S. officials said Washington would press for continued sanctions to keep President Saddam from rebuilding Iraq's forces. In his speech, Mr. Bush tacitly urged the Iraqi people to topple President Saddam.

"Coalition forces fought this war only as a last resort, and look forward to the day when Iraq is led by people prepared to live in peace with their neighbours," he said.

At least 126 allied troops were killed in the fighting. Iraqi casualties were far, far higher. The Saudi ambassador to Washington, Prince Bandar Ben Sultan, quoted Saudi military sources as

## Returning British soldiers will face mental battles

By Caroline Allen  
Reuters

LONDON — AS British troops finally join combat in the Gulf, veterans of past wars are warning of psychological battles to come when the men get home.

Grim tales of an ex-gunner who wouldn't go to sleep for days for fear of his dreams or a downed pilot whose leg still aches if a door slams are not just movie nightmares, says Tim Lynch, a veteran of the 1982 Falklands war between Britain and Argentina.

"But mostly it's not a case of screaming if a car backfires. It is how your whole quality of life suffers," said Lynch. "I fear for the future. We are not ready for what is coming."

A former medic and radio operator who evacuated wounded after Falklands battles, Lynch is now organising telephone helplines through which veterans can counsel soldiers back from the Gulf.

After Falklands, it took Lynch years to begin picking up the pieces of his own life and start his psychological recovery.

"It is limbo, just being stalled at certain moments," he said in an interview. "You feel guilty about surviving and you see how many people blame soldiers for a war after it's over."

His slow climb back was helped by joining Lincoln University clinical psychologist Rodrick Ormer in a study of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) among 53 Falklands veterans.

PTSD was officially recognised in the United States only in 1980 after research into why many American soldiers took their own lives after returning from Vietnam.

At London's Maudsley Hospital, Dr. Tim Wykes has worked with traumatised survivors of the Herald of Free Enterprise ferry which capsized in the English Channel in 1987 with the loss of about 200 lives.

She says combatants show similar stress symptoms, anything from mild panic attacks to physical paralysis. They need reassurance that they responded normally to an abnormal situation.

But for soldiers, the ordeal is

compounded by notions of heroism and bravery.

Lynch's father and grandfather both served in the army. "When I joined it was assumed I knew what I was letting myself in for," said Lynch, who signed up aged 16. "It's the John Wayne syndrome — great pressure to keep your emotions in check."

Veterans of the two world wars might call PTSD battle-shock or shellshock. "What we went through is not new," Lynch said. "But we have had little contact with those from the world wars... perhaps it's the generation gap."

Lynch says he has more in common with Horacio Benitez, an Argentine Falklands veteran whose factory outside Buenos Aires uses its profits to pay for counselling for former comrades.

After several Falklands combatants published harrowing accounts of the war, Britain's Royal Navy set up psychiatric counselling units. But it remains a sensitive topic.

"Like any other requirement, the medical and psychological needs of our servicemen are fully met," said a ministry of defence public relations official. He refused further details.

Lincoln University's Ormer said a soldier's first defence against stress would be getting enough food and sleep, and help from colleagues. Then, the sooner they can talk through their experiences, the better.

Lynch added: "It means coming to terms with what you did... what you had to do, witnessing... whatever you witnessed."

So far, British families have not seen a flood of body-bags bringing loved ones home from war against Iraq. But fear of chemical war, and television images of captured British pilots have raised the national stress level.

Military and civilian Gulf support groups say they are already swamped with distraught enquiries about alienation and have seen their friends wounded or dead.

"Families are putting a brave face on it but emotional problems are coming through," said Chris Hogg of the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Association.

But for soldiers, the ordeal is

## Moscow sees its 'success'

Combined agency dispatches

SOVIET FOREIGN Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh welcomed the Gulf ceasefire Thursday, and a spokesman for President Mikhail Gorbachev said it was a victory for Mr. Gorbachev.

Mr. Bessmertnykh told a news briefing the main priority after Thursday morning's ceasefire was to prevent any resumption of fighting in the region. The Soviet Union was now helping in contacts between U.S. and Iraqi military leaders to formally end military operations.

"We welcome the liberation of Kuwait and the restoration of its lawful government... for the first time the international community has shown unified will in the face of the seizure of one state by another," he said.

Anatoly Lukyanov, chairman of the national legislature of the Soviet Union, said Thursday the Gulf ceasefire is a "major victory for the foreign political initiative of our president."

Mr. Gorbachev tried to broker a peace agreement with Iraq, Moscow's former ally and a major weapons purchaser. But none of the agreements reached with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz during two weeks of diplomacy were acceptable to the allies.

"There is no doubt," said Speaker Lukyanov. "That, apart from anything else, this is a great victory for the foreign policy initiative of our president."

The last Soviet plan, forged largely by Gorbachev and Aziz at a midnight meeting in the Kremlin a few days before Sunday's land attack, allowed three weeks for an Iraqi withdrawal.

Moscow urged Washington to accept its plan and Mr. Gorbachev's envoy, Yevgeny Primakov, said the allies would bear full responsibility if they rejected it. His warning echoed growing criticism of the alliance in hard-line communist newspapers.

But President Bush said the proposal fell short of Iraqi acceptance of all United Nations resolutions condemning its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. It also delayed any withdrawal beyond acceptance deadlines.

Soviet Television news showed parts of Mr. Bush's Wednesday night speech in which he warned the alliance could resume fighting if Iraq failed to meet its demands for capitulation.

Mr. Gorbachev added a note of uncertainty to Soviet-U.S. ties on Tuesday by saying in a speech that progress in relations was still "fragile." But Kremlin officials stressed that differences during the war should not endanger those ties.

Asked about the remarks by Mr. Gorbachev, Mr. Bessmertnykh replied:

"President Gorbachev said there were elements of fragility in U.S.-Soviet relations and I fully agree with that. When subjective factors take the upper hand there appear concerns that relations might be thrown back."

He added: "Taking account of this fragility, I'd like to express my confidence our relations will overcome this stage of subjective matters... like during the Iraqi conflict, our relations succeeded in overcoming these differences."

## Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

but declined to make any comment on the political impact saying they thought it was premature to do so.

"I am too overwhelmed by the fast developments to collect my thoughts and make any statement," said a parliamentarian.

"It is a time for reflection, and for everyone in the Arab World to assess the situation and evaluate our actions to find out where we were right and where we were wrong," said an Upper House member, also a former minister but who preferred anonymity.

Ahmad Al Lawzi, Speaker of the Upper House (Senate), said the ceasefire has come in the line which Jordan has always pursued. "Even before the war started, we have been exerting efforts at all levels to resolve the crisis through peaceful means," Mr. Lawzi pointed out, referring to Jordan's diplomatic moves within the Arab World and the international scene.

"Jordan always wanted peace and dialogue, and we now hope that the ceasefire would lead to substantive diplomacy and negotiations to resolve the basic conflict which led to the war," Mr. Lawzi told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Lawzi, a former prime minister, emphasised the need for direct negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait to resolve their dispute over territory and oil. "Unless this problem is resolved to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, there is very little hope that other issues in the region could be addressed and settled comprehensively," he said. "This is one of the most important elements," he added and pointed out that the third operative para of U.N. Security Council Resolution 660 calls for direct negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait.

"Without the implementation of the resolution in full, as called for by the Security Council, we will be back to square one," he said in an explicit reference to signs that the regime of Saddam Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah may not be willing to discuss disputes with Iraq as stipulated in Resolution 660.

"The extent of progress we make in following the resolution will be the determining factor in the departure of foreign forces from the region," Mr. Lawzi said.

On the broader issue of addressing all problems, including the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian question, Mr. Lawzi expressed hope that the Gulf war was a turning point in the international community's approach to regional conflicts.

"There should not be a selective application of international legitimacy; it should be applicable to everyone, regardless of everything else, on an equitable basis with no distinction whatsoever," he said.

Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat, a leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, said while he welcomed the ceasefire and hoped that it would remain in place, the next phase in the process should be the early departure of the allied forces from the region.

Dr. Arabiyat also called for "close consultations among the Arab masses over the status of inter-Arab relations."

"The consultations," he emphasised, "should involve the rank and file of the Arab World and aim at reviewing the entire situation, where we stand after the Gulf conflict, and how we can address our problems without

foreign intervention."

"This cannot be done under the threat of guns," he said. "We hope there would be a quick process which would lead to the evacuation of all foreign forces from the Gulf."

Dr. Arabiyat said the so-called "new world order" espoused by U.S. President George Bush "should be closely examined by everyone to find out what it means and will entail and who will figure in what way in it."

"I do not think that anyone in the Arab World accepts the new world order if what happened in the Gulf is any indication," he said.

Bahjat Talhoumi, a senator and a former prime minister, also noted that Jordan had been seeking a peaceful resolution to the Gulf conflict ever since the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"His Majesty the King visited the U.S. and 12 other countries in pursuit of peace before the war began," Mr. Talhoumi noted.

With the ceasefire, Mr. Talhoumi said, "Jordan hopes that security and stability will be restored not only to the Gulf region but also to the entire Middle East with just and comprehensive solutions to all problems of the region."

"This has always been and remains to the message of Jordan," he said.

## Arms

(Continued from page 1)

strong inter-Arab cooperation, particularly between Saudi Arabia and Jordan, to meet Iraq's military requirements."

Reports from Saudi Arabia, after a battle between the allied forces and Iraqi forces at the border town of Khafji last month, had also alleged that similar weapons bearing Jordan-related markings were found at the scene of the battle after the Iraqi withdrawal. Jordan denied that these weapons had reached Iraq after the imposition of the embargo on Iraq.

Secret war: Arafat's forces have been cooperating with each other to ensure that Iraq received its needs of arms and ammunition during the Iraq-Iraq war, which ended in 1988.

## 'Treachery'

(Continued from page 1)

Sources close to the government say the leadership is aware of the traumatising experience that the Iraqis have been through and believes that once the Iraqis have recovered from the overwhelming sadness and bitterness, they will focus their attention on rebuilding their country.

But time, according to analysts, will remain an important factor in shaping the Iraqi mood, especially that the U.S. might choose to pursue its political and economic pressures against Iraq.

Hours before the American declaration of a ceasefire the allied forces did not leave their objectives to Iraqi imagination. On Wednesday night Baghdad was the target of some of the heaviest bombardment since the beginning of the war.

The targets, however, were mostly symbols of the state. Journalists watched from the windows of Al Rashid as allied missiles ripped through the Iraqi Baathist national command.

The thunderous blast came a few minutes after Baghdad Radio announced that President Saddam Hussein had presided over a meeting of the Baathist Party.

The political message was clear to the Iraqi government and people. But Iraqi officials believe that the U.S. will not try to go beyond the objectives of the Security Council Resolutions — in the immediate future at least. They argue that the U.S. is using such tactics to pressure Iraq for more political concessions.

So far there are no signs that the U.S. tactics aimed at prompting a popular revolt against the leadership are effective; for regardless of how people might feel about the leadership's policies, the U.S. is here accused of deliberately trying to destroy the country.

"Our children will never forgive the U.S. for destroying our country," said a shopkeeper in Kazimch.

## Iraq

(Continued from page 1)

The allied bombing of Baghdad stopped barely an hour before the ceasefire took effect.

The final blast, apparently from a cruise missile, shook the city at 6:50 a.m. (0350 GMT) and was followed by a few seconds of anti-aircraft fire.

A military spokesman said that despite the ceasefire, allied planes "continue to fly provocatively in the far ends of the homeland's skies."

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraq had accepted without conditions all 12 U.N. resolutions adopted since its invasion of Kuwait in August.

The resolutions include a trade ban, had ended to Iraq's claim of Kuwait and payment of war damage to Kuwait.

Non-stop bombing of Iraq over the last 42 days has severely disrupted infrastructure, destroying power stations, bridges, factories, government buildings and telecommunication systems.

"Mr. Bush had a plan to fulfill and he thinks he has done it," a shopping in Baghdad market said.

"For Iraqis, the plan is not to have victory, we can do it in the future," he said.

Yasser Ismail, a college graduate, said: "At least we were able to confront the armies of 30 nations for 40 days despite the heavy damage done to our country."

Baghdad Radio said in a commentary Iraq emerged united from the war with its people rallying around Saddam Hussein. "Iraq has come out of the experience united and rallied around its leader Saddam Hussein after it offered the Third World a lesson in steadfastness," it said.

Algeria Thursday urged a formal United Nations ceasefire in the Gulf, the lifting of sanctions against Baghdad and the withdrawal of foreign forces from Iraq.

A Foreign Ministry statement carried by the Algerian news agency AFS said: "The Security Council owes itself to decree an immediate ceasefire and order the withdrawal without delay of all foreign forces from Iraqi territory."

The ministry said there was no longer any justification for U.N. economic sanctions after Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.

"The lifting of these measures and the Security Council's commitment to guarantee the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and Kuwait are necessary to ease tension and install a climate favourable to reconstruction."

## Hostilities

(Continued from page 1)

well as detained Kuwaitis and pinpoint the location of mines and booby traps.

Fewer than 100 Americans were reported killed in the fighting — a toll that allied Gulf commander General Norman Schwarzkopf called miraculous. But Mr. Bush cautioned against euphoria or gloating, and his spokesman talked of difficult days ahead.

"All we've said here tonight is we've won the military battle, its over. We're going to suspend military operations because we've achieved our objectives and there's no sense going on," spokesman Fitzwater said.

"We still have to resolve the ceasefire question and the U.N.

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## Khaleda Zia's party leads in 1st free Bangladesh elections

DHAKA (AP) — The centrist party headed by Khaleda Zia, widow of an assassinated president, held the lead as votes were counted Thursday, but appeared unlikely to win a parliamentary majority, news reports said.

The elections Wednesday marked the first democratic transition of power since Bangladesh gained its independence from Pakistan in 1971. All of the country's previous nine governments took charge following coups or assassinations.

Political observers said the voting trends indicated no single party would be able to win a majority, making a hung parliament likely.

With results announced for 240 of parliament's 300 seats, Mrs. Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party had taken 109 seats, state-run television reported. Elections in two districts were cancelled because of the deaths of competing candidates.

The Awami League led by

Sheik Hasina, daughter of another assassinated president, took 75 seats. Five other seats went to small parties allied with the Awami League.

Last year the two women temporarily put aside their long-time rivalry and joined forces to lead a mass movement that forced President Hussain Muhammad Ershad to give up the power he seized in a 1983 military coup. The opposition accused Ershad's government of corruption and authoritarian rule. He resigned on Dec. 6, and a caretaker government took over to organize the elections.

Ershad, despite being under house arrest and facing trial on charges of corruption, embezzlement and illegal possession of arms, won in five constituencies, bringing his Jatiya Party a total of 30 seats, the television reports said.

Under Bangladesh law, candidates can run for as many as five seats, but they can keep only one. By-elections would have to be

held in four of the constituencies where Ershad won. He would have to surrender his seat if he is convicted.

Muslim religious parties and independents won the other 21 seats for which results were announced, the reports said.

Mrs. Zia won in two of the five districts where she ran. Results were incomplete in the others.

Hasina won in one of the three constituencies where she ran. Her party charged that there was widespread bribing and intimidation of voters in her districts and asked the election commission to order new polls.

Hasina is the daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh's first president who was killed during a 1975 coup. Mrs. Zia's husband, President Ziaur Rahman, was assassinated in 1981.

The election commission said at least 60 per cent of the 62 million registered voters turned out to choose among the 70 parties and 424 independent candi-



Khaleda Zia

dates.

One man was killed in a shoot-out between Hasina's and Mrs. Zia's supporters in Chittagong, an election official in the port city said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Minor clashes were reported in Dhaka and other towns.

At least 625 people were arrested across the country, mostly on charges of trying to cast false ballots or carrying firearms and explosives, United News of Bangladesh said.

## 600 die in Zambia cholera outbreak

LUSAKA (R) — Cholera sweeping Zambia has killed nearly 600 people in the worst outbreak of the disease in the country, officials said Thursday.

"Deaths are being reported on an escalating scale. The disease is spreading from area to area and is not being contained," a senior official of the Zambia Red Cross said, adding: "It is a crisis and it is getting worse."

The official, who asked not to be named, said 6,487 cases of the disease had been reported since it first broke out four months ago, with 588 deaths by last week in seven of the country's nine provinces.

It is the worst outbreak of cholera recorded in Zambia, where an epidemic in early 1990 claimed over 200 lives.

Zambia's Health Ministry has blamed the outbreak on a breakdown in social services resulting in poor sanitation and water supply in residential areas.

The Red Cross official said the outbreak could have been prevented.

"It is pure negligence on the part of many quarters who have not done their work. This is a preventable disease... we had an outbreak last year and should have taken precautions," he said.

The worst-hit parts of the capital, Lusaka, are squatter areas, where a senior Health Ministry official said most pit latrines were dug close to water wells.

Persistent water shortages in other parts of the country have impeded efforts to improve sanitary conditions.

The Red Cross official said his group's headquarters in Lusaka were getting daily reports of deaths and fresh outbreaks. It appealed last week for assistance from its parent body, the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC).

## Thai king rejects junta's interim constitution

BANGKOK (R) — The king of Thailand has rejected an interim constitution proposed by the military junta that seized power in a bloodless coup last weekend, military sources said Thursday.

In a rare intervention in Thailand's stormy politics, King Bhumibol Adulyadej declined to approve a draft of the proposed constitution that would give a legal framework to a caretaker government promised by the junta.

"We do not know exactly which article was rejected, but for sure something has gone wrong," said one army source who declined to be identified.

Coup leader General Sunthorn Kongsompong flew to the northern resort of Chiang Mai Wednesday to present the interim constitution to the king after deposing the democratically elected government of Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan last Saturday.

It was the first hitch in an otherwise smooth takeover of power by the 200,000-strong Thai military.

The king legitimized the coup Tuesday, backing the generals' view that Chatichai had run a corrupt government that had lost the faith of the people.

It was not clear what the king objected to in the proposed constitution, designed to clear the way for the appointment of a civilian-led interim government.

However, an army source said the king appeared to want to restrict the power of the junta to interfere in the administration of the interim government.

Leaders of the coup would present another draft of the constitution to the monarch Friday, military sources said.

The king is a revered figure in Thailand and normally plays no part in the day-to-day running of the government.

## Archbishop regrets remark on women priests

LONDON (AP) — The next Archbishop of Canterbury has said he regretted describing opposition to women priests as "heresy" in a recent interview that created religious controversy.

The Rt. Rev. George Carey, who will be enthroned in April as the Church of England's new spiritual leader, said he "unintentionally caused offense" when he said the belief that only men can "represent Christ at the altar" is "a most serious heresy." "Controversy has been stirred by my use of the word 'heresy' in an interview I gave to the Reader's Digest," Carey said in a statement from the archbishop's Lambeth Palace office in London.

## Rat meat makes the menu in China

PEKING (R) — Rats have made the menu in Canton, capital of south China's Guangdong province, the official Economic Information daily newspaper said Wednesday. The region that gave Chinese cuisine snake meat, monkey's brains and roast dog, cat and bat now eats rats, the paper said. The mouse and rat meat — selling for up to 25 yuan (\$4.80) — can be served steamed, roasted, stewed, smoked, deep fried or stir-fried. The newspaper suggested that appreciation of the delicacy should spread throughout the land as a way of reducing the population of pests.

"Eating rats can open up a new supply of meat, turning a harm into a benefit," it said. Suggested recipes included: Asparagus fried with rat, rat on a hot plate, rat steamed with lotus leaves, rat steamed with chestnuts and bamboo and rat soup made with medicinal roots.

## Singaporeans too stressed

SINGAPORE (R) — Singaporean men are too busy making money to make babies, a member of parliament says. Backbencher Arthur Beng told the house he was worried that unless something was done to remedy matters, "believe the last traces of libido" will simply evaporate. "He said young people should get married and have more children, but pressures of work and reserve army duties left Singaporean males too stressed to enjoy 'nuptial bliss.' But he believed Singaporeans could be just as good in the bedroom as in the boardroom and suggested as a first step setting up more co-educational schools to help make males less inhibited. In the mid-1980s, the prosperous island republic abruptly reversed a "two is enough" birth control policy when it found the population dipping. Now it exhorts couples to have "three, or more if you can afford it," backing up the policy with generous tax breaks.

## Kashmir politician's daughter kidnapped

SRINAGAR, India (R) — Indian security forces have sealed off the Kashmir Valley in a search for the kidnapped daughter of a prominent politician.

A senior policeman told Reuters Thursday no one had claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Nabehda Intiaz in Srinagar as she made her way home from work Wednesday evening.

All routes in and out of the valley had been sealed and stringent checks were being carried out on anything that moved, he said.

Intiaz, 29, a lecturer, was seized on a Srinagar street and bundled into a van shortly before the Indian parliament in New Delhi voted to extend direct rule over Jammu and Kashmir for another six months.

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## Fledgling Zambian opposition plans fight for leadership

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — Zambia's fledgling opposition movement opened a national convention Wednesday aimed at moving the first challenge to President Kenneth Kaunda's one-party rule in 18 years.

"Multiparty democracy is here to stay," declared Arthur Wina, the chairman of the Movement for Multiparty Democracy.

Under pressure at home and abroad Kaunda rewrote the constitution in December to restore Western-style democracy. He also promised free elections by July.

Wina, a founder of Kaunda's ruling United National Independence Party and Zambia's first finance minister, told more than 100 delegates that the opposition would soon control the nation of 7.5 million people.

"We are now the largest political party in... Zambia, and we are ready to take over the government," Wina said to tumultuous applause.

The meeting of academics, students, businessmen, trade union leaders and former Kaunda loyalists capped months of mounting public dissent against corruption, mismanagement and nepotism in the government.

It also signalled a growing shift in Africa toward political pluralism since the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, previously the role model for many African leaders.

The three-day convention aims to elect a presidential candidate and 37 shadow cabinet ministers who will challenge Kaunda and his party at presidential and parliamentary elections this year.

Four contenders for the presidency of the democratic movement have put their names forward. The victor will challenge Kaunda at the polls.

Fredrick Chiluba, 46, chairman of the powerful 300,000-member Zambia Congress of Trade Unions, is the favorite, according to conference goers.

"Vote for the man of the people," said a pamphlet distributed to Chiluba's supporters at the convention.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Ethics Committee has said it found "substantial credible evidence" that Sen. Alan Cranston committed major ethical violations in his relationship with former Savings and Loans owner

Charles H. Keating Jr.

The committee said no further action was warranted against the other four members of the so-called Keating Five, but added the conduct of two — Sens. Donald W. Riegle Jr. and Dennis DeConcini — "gave the appearance of being improper."

The committee also found that Sens. John Glenn and John McCain "exercised poor judgment" in their actions.

The unanimous decision by the six member committee set the stage for Cranston's case to go before the full Senate for a possible censure.

All five senators had denied any wrongdoing in their association with Keating. None of the five was immediately available for comment.

The five met with Keating to

discuss his troubled Lincoln Savings and Loan at a time when federal regulations were investigating the institution.

Keating and associates donated \$1.3 million to the campaigns and political causes of the five lawmakers, most of it while the Federal Home Loan Bank board was conducting its examination. The institution was seized by regulators in April 1989 at a potential cost to taxpayers of more than \$2 billion.

Committee members said they had not let the Keating five off lightly after an investigation that began in December 1989.

"I don't think you would think that you'd been judged with lightness if your peers had judged you as these men have been judged," said Sen. Jesse Helms.

In addition to its impact on the

reputations and careers of the senators under investigation, the case is expected to define the limits of propriety for members of Congress intervening with federal regulators — especially on behalf of a major campaign contributor.

In Cranston's case, the committee must send him a statement detailing the specific charges against him and give him a chance to respond. Cranston, a California Democrat, is undergoing treatment for prostate cancer. He has said he will not seek reelection in 1992.

In the case of Riegle, a Michigan Democrat, the committee found that he "took steps to assist Lincoln Savings and Loan Association with its regulatory problems at a time that Charles Keating was raising substantial campaign funds" for Riegle.

## Panel: Cranston committed major ethical violations

### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PADAT

ORXAB

NERRED

KENRAT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here. FROM

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: COCCA, FUROR, SONATA, WHENCE

Answer: One has to leave a date when... ONE HAS TWO

### THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

HARRIS 1-29

Copyright 1991 by Harris

"Stanley's getting his lips in shape for Valentine's Day."

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF

BY J. DUNE MATHS TAVELLES

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold

♠ A6 Q J9843 ♠ A193

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—We are not among those who believe that a bid of one spade now would be fourth-suit forcing—it should promise at least a four-card suit. We also can see no reason why we should not make the natural, strength-showing jump to three clubs.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ A72 ♠ A9Q762 ♠ Q7

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

A.—You have an excellent suit of your own, a strong hand and two key cards in partner's suit. Tell partner the good news that slam is in the offing with a jump shift to three diamonds.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ KQJ105 ♠ 874 ♠ AAK6

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

A.—You have a very fine hand, but your spade suit isn't quite long enough to be considered self-sufficient and your hearts aren't good enough for a jump shift to two spades. Bid one spade. Change a low heart to a low spade, and the hand would merit a jump shift.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K105 ♠ AK845 ♠ AQ962 ♠ Void

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—This powerful warrents a force to game. If you play that an immediate cue-bid of the enemy suit shows that, by all means cue-bid two hearts. If you use the cue-bid for some other purpose, your only option is to start with a takeout double.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ AK92 ♠ A10 8 ♠ AKQ853

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?

A.—You have excellent playing potential, but partner did pass your opening bid. Therefore, you should not indulge in any flights of fancy. To get your message across, just show your second suit by bidding two diamonds.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ Q76 ♠ 4 10652 ♠ Q6432

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 2 ♠

What action do you take?

A.—The concept that you need extra values to make a free raise of two spades here has gone the way of the dodo bird. However, this hand stretches the limit. Pass. It would be a much closer decision had we held a fourth spade.

### Mutt'n'Jeff



### Andy Capp



### Peanuts

